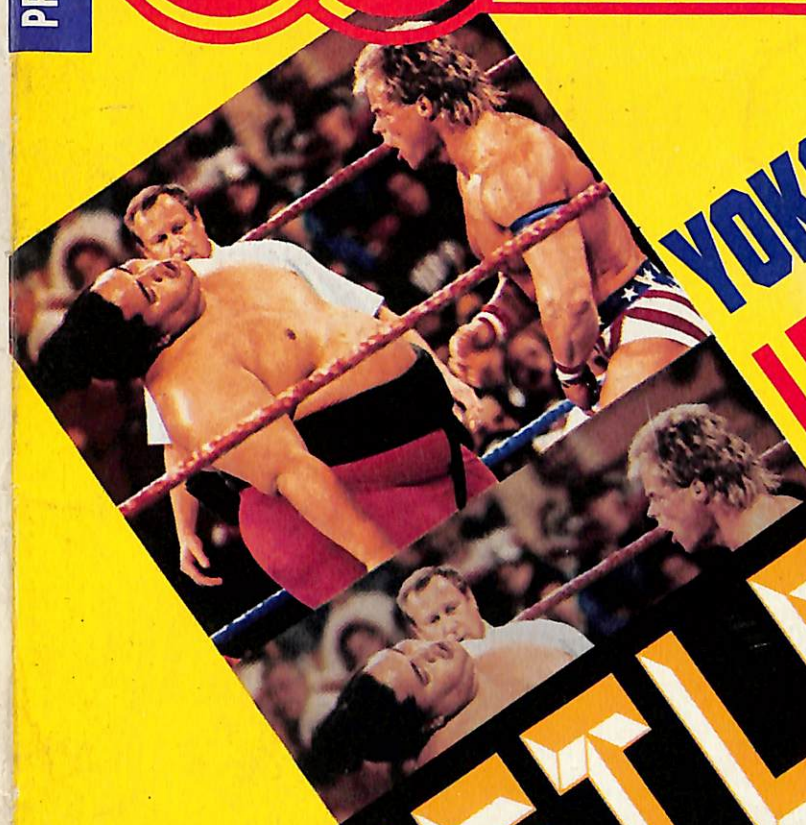
FLAIR HAS VADER IN HIS GRASP–BUT FOR HOW LONG?

FULL-COLOR CENTERFOLD: TATANKA

May 1994

PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED

PRO Wrestling® ILLUSTRATED



YOKOZUNA vs. LEX LUGER

WRESTLEMANIA

The Match That Would Make "X" A 10!

$2.50 U.S. $2.95 CANADA £1.95 U.K.

05

0 72246 00388 6

Intensely Awesome

see page 17 for the Warrior 1-900#

Warrior Wear™ Clothing, Posters, Hats, Calendars!

WW2-PC01

See the Warrior like no one has ever seen him before with these totally physical calendar posters. The Warrior seems to explode right out of these photos and the wisdom quote takes you beyond "Just doing it" to "Already done." Each poster is complete with the Warriors bold signature. At the end of the year cut off the calendar and frame. Sure to be a collectors item!.....$17.50

Be one of the select few in the country to own one of these limited edition posters of the Warrior and his Harley. This one is too intense for just any one, only the true at heart will own one.....$20.95

WW2-PC02

Limited Edition!
Only 25,000 printed and comes with certificate of authenticity
$20.95

WW2-PLE1

WW1-H003

Black WW1-H001
White WW1-H002

WW1-H004

Embroidered Illustrated Action Hat

WARRIOR WEAR™

Feel the power of Warrior Wear, look as intense as you feel with a embroidered **Classic Illustrated Hat** (Red/Royal Blue/ Purple or Neon Pink/Light Blue and Black).....$25.00
"Badge of Honor" Hat (black or White).....$16.50

Define Yourself As A Warrior

Seperate yourself from the wanna-bes with the **Warrior satin jacket.** Comes in either red, white or black with the Warrior logo on front with Warrior Wisdom inscription on the back or with just the Warrior logo on the front.....$57.50

Sweatshirts and T-shirts tell the world that you are a Warrior. The Warrior logo appears on the front in bright black and blood red color, while the Warrior caligraphy style writing on the back gives insight to the way of a Warrior. And the Warrior signature make them official Warrior Wear.
Sweat Shirt (White or Gray, sizes med. to XXXL).....$35.00
T-shirts (not shown-sizes med. large, XL)WWI-T002.....$18.00

White WW1-J001
Black WW1-J002
Red WW1-J003

WW1-S001

Warrior Wisdom Imprinted on Back

WW1-S002

To Order Call Toll Free

1-800-747-WARR

For a Free catalog for all **Warrior Wear** *items call or write:*

Always Believe! Warrior

Ultimate Creations Inc. • 8711 Pinnacle Peak Road • Scottsdale AZ 85255 • 1-602-488-2729

PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

STANLEY WESTON
Founder

PUBLISHER.....Stuart M. Saks
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER.....Craig Peters
SENIOR EDITOR.....Bill Apter
MANAGING EDITOR.....V. J. Paterno
ASSOCIATE EDITOR.....David Lenker
ART DIRECTOR.....Barbara Ann Brady
ART ASSOCIATES.....Tina Filice
.....Johnathan Clifton Harding
.....Joseph Kalman
.....Alex Krasnopolsky
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR.....Bob Eddy
PRODUCTION ASSOCIATES.....Cliff Campo
.....Bernard V. Thompson III
.....Ron Frankhouser
SENIOR WRITERS.....David Rosenbaum
.....Andy Rodriguez
.....Chris Bernucca
.....Eddie Ellner
PHOTO EDITOR.....Jason Ross Lavin
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS.....Matt Brock
.....Elizabeth A. Hunter
.....Kostya Kennedy
.....Joey Styles

PRESIDENT
Kenneth J. Gudaitis
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT/CIRCULATION
Charles Walker
TECHNICAL ADVISER/PRODUCTION
Doug Heller
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
David Gerhardt
CIRCULATION DIRECTOR
Robert Nucci
SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES
Nancy Parsons
P.O. Box 910
Fort Washington, PA 19034

PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED (ISSN: 1043-7576) is published monthly by London Publishing Co., 7002 West Butler Pike, Ambler, PA 19002. Second-class postage paid at Rockville Centre, NY, 11571 and additional post offices. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to "Pro Wrestling Illustrated," P.O. Box 910, Ft. Washington, PA 19034. Single copy price $2.50 ($2.95 in Canada, £1.95 in U.K.) Not responsible for the loss or non-return of unsolicited articles or photographs, which will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope bearing the proper amount of postage. No part of this magazine may be reproduced without the written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved. **FOR ADVERTISING INQUIRIES:** (310) 572-7272. U.S. and Canadian distribution by Kable News Company Inc., 11 West 42nd St., New York, NY 10036. International distribution (excluding U.K.) by Worldwide Media Service Inc., 115 East 23rd St, New York, NY 10010. U.K. distribution by Comag, Tavistock Rd., West Drayton, Middlesex UB77QE, England.

Printed in U.S.A.

MAY 1994

FEATURES

19 **IT'S DO OR DIE FOR WOMEN'S WRESTLING: WHY ALL EYES ARE ON ALUNDRA BLAYZE**
It's been nearly a decade since people embraced women's wrestling on a large scale. Its fans hope the former Madusa Miceli can revive the flame

22 **PRESS CONFERENCE: BOBBY HEENAN**
"The Brain," wrestling's most colorful analyst, discusses his unglamorous exit from the WWF and looks at his future possibilities

24 **WRESTLEMANIA RETROSPECTIVE: HOW I THROUGH IX CHANGED THE SPORT FOREVER**
All sorts of things have happened at the WWF's showcase event. No other supercard is quite like it, as this analysis shows

32 **LEX LUGER VS. YOKOZUNA: THE MATCH THAT WOULD MAKE WRESTLEMANIA X A 10!**
It would be only fitting if these two finally have their long-awaited rematch in New York City, where the rivalry began last July

39 **THE MONSTER TAMED? FLAIR HAS VADER IN HIS GRASP—BUT FOR HOW LONG?**
The "Nature Boy" stunned Big Van Vader for the WCW World title. Now Vader must prove it was an aberration, or else lose his intimidating aura

DEPARTMENTS

4 **BETWEEN FALLS**
The Human Side; Irate Iroquois; 10 Times The Man

6 **RINGSIDE with Bill Apter**
The latest news from around the squared circle

8 **FROM THE DESK OF ... Stuart M. Saks**
Should there be a mandatory retirement age in wrestling?

10 **IN FOCUS with Craig Peters**
WCW's new commissioner should be perfect for the job

12 **WIN, LOSE, OR DRAW by Andy Rodriguez**
Flair and his foes go off-Broadway

14 **THE STEEL CAGE by Chris Bernucca**
It's Vader's turn to show some motivation

16 **OFF THE TOP ROPE with Eddie Ellner**
You ask him questions—he'll answer them

35 ***PWI* CLOSE-UP: TATANKA**
A capsule profile of the Native American dynamo

44 **ARENA REPORTS**
Match results from around the nation and the world

62 **SCOUTING REPORT**
Summarizing the strengths and weakness of five mat stars

64 **OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS**
The mat world's most respected rankings

66 **RATINGS ANALYSIS**
Guess who is "the man" over the past 10 years?

68 **WRESTLING ENQUIRER**
Headlines from around the world of wrestling

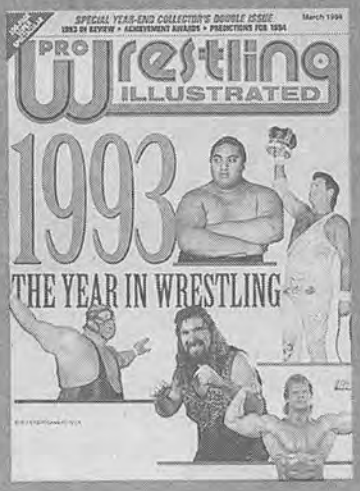
70 **HOTSHOT**
The downside of being a fan favorite

Next issue on sale March 22, 1994

between falls

PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED
welcomes reader's comments on any of our stories or columns.
Send letters to:
BETWEEN FALLS
Box 956
Ft. Washington, PA 19034
Letters preceded by a ☎ indicate letters left by fans on the *PWI* Hotline (1-900-884-4PWI; see ad elsewhere in this issue).

LOOKING BACKWARD



We're well into 1994 now, but 1993 still rings heavily in people's minds. That's obvious from the comments we received on our March 1994 issue, the annual "Year In Review" special. Naturally, most of the mail centered on our Achievement '93 awards.

"Vampire Warrior as Rookie of the Year? What a hoot!" said Cindy Burton of Woonsocket, Rhode Island. "It should've been Ice Train, and he wasn't even among the runners-up. What has Vampire Warrior accomplished lately?"

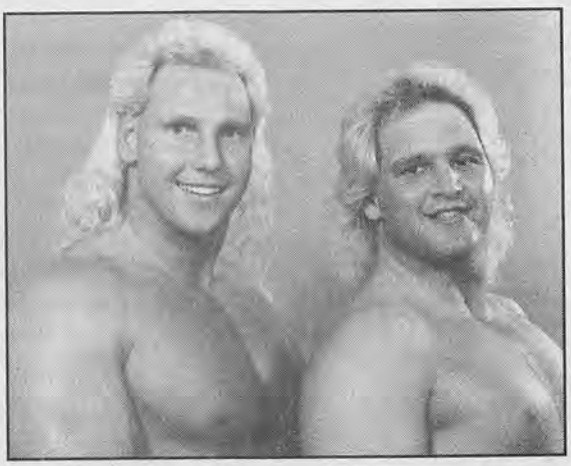
Joseph Augustino of Jacinto City, Texas, couldn't believe Bret Hart only placed third in the Most Popular Wrestler category. "Folks have short memories about Lex Luger [the winner]. I mean, the guy was a rulebreaker during '93!"

The Match of the Year should have been Hart's semifinal match vs. Curt Hennig at the WWF's "King Of The Ring" pay-per-view event in June, stated Harold Bachman of Cincinnati. "I was there in Dayton that night," he wrote. "The action and tension were phenomenal. I couldn't believe it."

THE HUMAN SIDE

I have read *PWI* for quite a few years now. I always wished that I could have a story to relate to your readers about the wrestlers who could show their human side. My wish, unfortunately, was granted and here's the story:

My mom, Amy Woodrow, had been a wrestling fan for as long as I could remember. She was taken ill last August 9, at the age of 80. She was hospitalized, and the prognosis was not good.



Jackie and Bobby Fulton, The Fantastics, were exactly that for reader Dan Russell. They, along with Wahoo McDaniel and Jimmy Garvin, signed a get-well card for Russell's dying mother, an avid wrestling fan.

On September 18, our area promoter, James Hines, presented a wrestling card at a local arena. Headlining were The Fantastics, Bobby and Jackie Fulton, whom Mom just adored. My wife and I contacted Mr. Hines and asked him if he thought they would sign a get-well card for Mom. Well, not only did Bobby and Jackie sign the card, but they each took time to write a personal message to her. Wahoo McDaniel and Jimmy Garvin also signed the card.

We took the card to the hospital and showed Mom, reading what each one had to say. Even though she was semi-comatose, she understood and produced a lovely smile.

Amy Woodrow passed away on October 12, never having the chance to meet Bobby and Jackie Fulton. The card, having brought the first smile we'd seen in weeks, was buried with her.

To Mr. Hines, Bobby and Jackie Fulton, Wahoo McDaniel, and Jimmy Garvin, a heartfelt thanks goes out to you. May God bless you. From me, wife Candy, and the family, thanks for caring about your fans.

DAN RUSSELL
Circleville, OH

IRATE IROQUOIS

After viewing a segment of "Face To Face" on *WWF Wrestling Cavalcade,* I was figuratively slapped in the face by comments made by one James E. Cornette. Though the comments he gave were directed to Tatanka, he made references to all Native Americans in North America.

His assumption of us sitting on the reservations "drinking fire water for false courage" is exactly that, a damned assumption. If Cornette wanted to make those statements directly to Tatanka, then he should have directed them to him. Instead, he brought in the whole Native American community.

If it weren't for the Iroquois Confederation, whose laws and government were copied by Cornette's

If Jim Cornette wanted to insult Tatanka, he should have directly referred to him, says reader Will Jamieson. Instead, he says Cornette maligned all Native Americans, and should be banned until he apologizes.

forefathers, the U.S. would not have come into being. All great Native nations should get the credit they deserve for helping set up the United States and Canada. We do not deserve Cornette's views.

I know it may be one person's belief, but on national television? Give us a break! That is like calling Asians people who do laundry, or blacks slaves. That is wrong. We are all here in this world together, so we should get along with each other.

Cornette should be banned from wrestling until he makes a public apology to all Native Americans, from the heart and not one forced upon him by Jack Tunney or Vince McMahon. Then and only then will I be satisfied.

WILL JAMIESON
Subdury, Ontario

10 TIMES THE MAN

At Starrcade, many thought that it would be Ric Flair's last match. Boy, did he fool all of the doubting Thomases out there. He did what many people said he couldn't do—pin Big Van Vader. That victory at Starrcade proves that he's the greatest champion to ever step in the squared circle. He is 10 times the man. I don't think any other wrestler can achieve such a feat.

KENNETH HOCKADAY
Brooklyn, NY

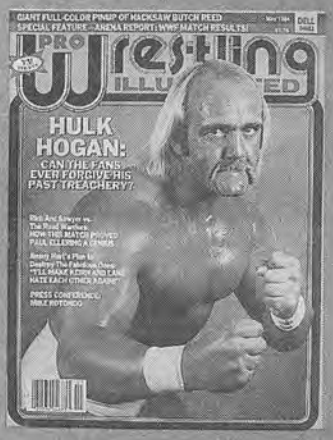
HULK NOT FOR U.S.

Let me tell you, Hulk Hogan hasn't shunned the U.S. ("Hulk Hogan International: Why Has The 'Real American' Shunned The U.S.," February 1994). Instead, the U.S. has shunned Hogan! I think many agree with me when I say I'm sick and tired of seeing the "Hulkster" running out of the WWF, only to return and win the World title the second he steps foot into the ring.

(Continued on page 60)

Hulk Hogan may stand up for America, but reader Vincent Nieto says WWF fans are tiring of him. He believes that if the "Hulkster" prefers to wrestle in Japan, he should stay there.

10 YEARS AGO IN PWI



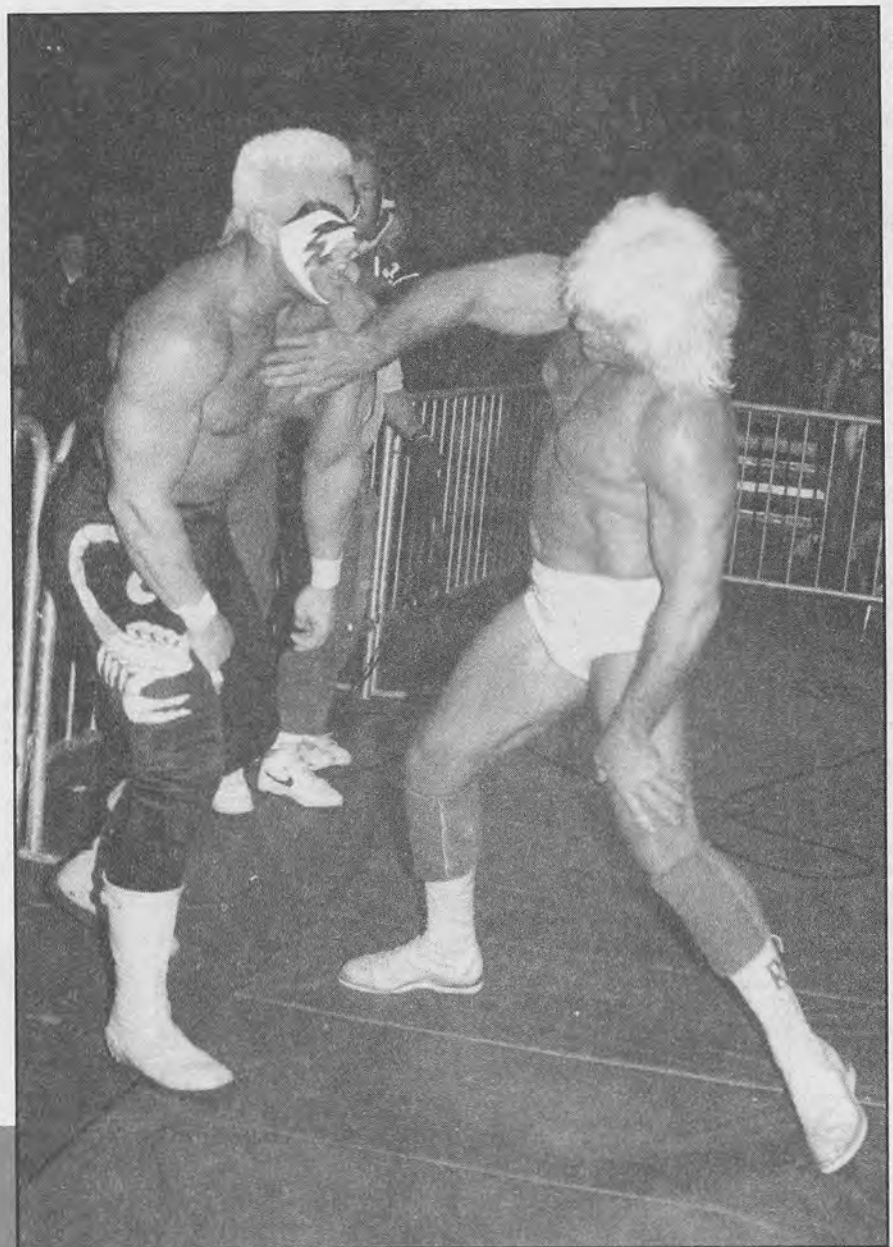
The cover of the May 1984 issue was graced by Hulk Hogan, who had just returned for a second-go round in the WWF. In his previous stint in the WWF, Hogan was a merciless rulebreaker under the guidance of Fred Blassie. Some fans wondered if Hogan could be trusted. The answer, of course, turned out to be a resounding yes. Hogan went on to defeat The Iron Sheik, Blassie's protege, for the first of five WWF World titles; his popularity went through the roof.

The centerfold featured Butch Reed. At the time, "Hacksaw" and Junkyard Dog were locked in one of the nastiest feuds in Mid-South history. Reed, who also came close to dethroning Ric Flair as NWA World champion, got upset when Hacksaw Duggan won a fan vote to decide JYD's partner for a series of bouts against Mid-South tag champs Mr. Olympia and Ted DiBiase. Reed and JYD traded the North American title several times.

Elsewhere in the magazine: Jimmy Hart discussed his plan to destroy The Fabulous Ones, Steve Keirn and Stan Lane ... Mike Rotundo discussed his victory over Greg Valentine for the Florida heavyweight title and his plans to target Flair in "Press Conference" ... Matt Brock looked at Mad Dog Vachon, whom he called a hero ... Liz Hunter spoke to Magnum T.A. about the ill-feelings that were developing between him and Mr. Wrestling II.

RINGSIDE

With Bill Apter



While Sting and Ric Flair respect each other, they're still competitors. Don't be surprised if the new WCW World champion gives Sting a shot at his title belt.

IT'S STILL HARD to believe that **Ric Flair** is WCW World champion. You surely know about his tremendous performance at Starrcade, where he won the WCW World title from **Big Van Vader**. The question a lot of people are asking these days is, how long can the fortysomething Flair stay on top?

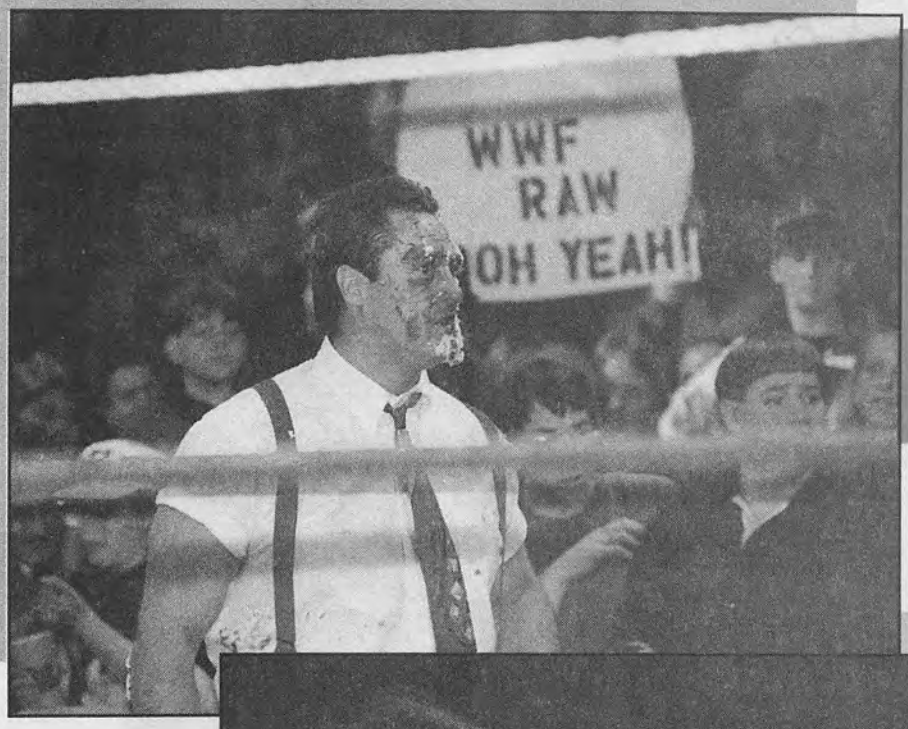
His reign might not be as long as some of his fans would hope. If you thought Vader was brutal and merciless as a champion, what frame of mind do you think he's in now that he's again an ex-champ? More dangerous than ever, I would think.

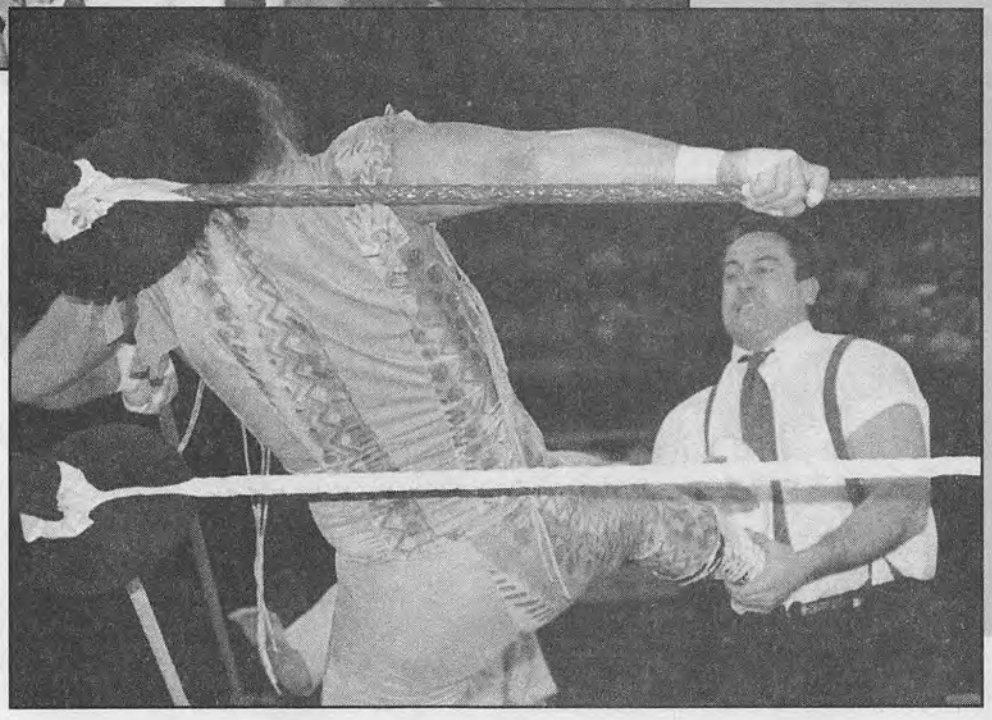
Flair followed up his Starrcade triumph with a series of impressive wins over TV champ **Lord Steven Regal**. Good thing for the Blackpool, England, native that his TV belt wasn't on the line.

Remember the testimonials **Sting** and **Rick Steamboat** offered to Flair in the locker room after Starrcade? Despite their reverence for the "Nature Boy," both are rumored to be seeking World title shots. I'm sure Flair will oblige.

Sting hasn't held a title since losing the World belt to Vader last March. Steamboat has struggled since losing the TV belt to Regal at Fall Brawl, but his matchups with Flair have always been classics.

Two WCW teams have emerged as major title threats. **Cactus Jack** and **Maxx Payne** soundly defeated **Tex Slazenger** and **Shanghai Pierce** at the December 27 pay-per-view event. Just a few months ago, the equally bizarre Jack and Payne would have been the last wrestlers you'd think could make a successful team. They've proved doubters wrong. They're really in synch in the ring. **The Nasty Boys** would be making a big mistake if they ever tried to brawl with those two.





No, Irwin R. Schyster hasn't taken to wearing facepaint. He's just been assaulted by Randy Savage, who threw a cake commemorating *WWF Monday Night Raw's* first anniversary in the taxman's face (left). Savage later defeated Schyster in the ring (below). Talk about having your cake and eating it, too!

Paul Roma and **Paul Orndorff** are doing surprisingly well also. I'm still not sure what motivated Roma to leave **The Four Horsemen** and join rulebreaker Orndorff. The two Pauls have dominated their matches against **2 Cold Scorpio** and **Marcus Alexander Bagwell**; most of their victories have come with the aid of their manager, the devious **Assassin**.

Roma now has another problem in addition to Scorpio and Bagwell. **Arn Anderson** has returned to WCW for the first time since his brawl with **Sid Vicious** in a hotel room in Blackburn, England, last fall. "The Enforcer" has gone right after his former tag team partner, defeating Roma several times in solo competition.

And in case you haven't heard, **"Diamond"**

(Continued on page 50)

from the desk of...

Stuart M. Saks

There he was in all his splendor: Ric Flair. He had just beaten Big Van Vader at Starrcade—perhaps Flair's most dramatic and fantastic triumph in a career filled with dramatic and fantastic triumphs. Still tingling from the residue energy of the match, I watched Flair intently. Then I heard a colleague say off-handedly: "Not bad for an old man."

That's when it dawned on me, or should I say re-dawned on me. In watching the "Nature Boy's" thrilling rally from near defeat, I had completely forgotten his age (44). It simply didn't matter. What mattered was the way he wrestled, the way he shone as an athlete.

The incident reminded me of an issue that comes up often among my peers. There are many wrestling observers who believe that there should be a mandatory retirement age in the sport. I'd like to take this opportunity—still in the flush of Flair's victory—to say that I disagree. I absolutely disagree. Proponents of a retirement age argue that wrestling at an advanced age is dangerous to individuals and to the sport as a whole. Professional wrestling is by nature a violent endeavor, and as bones and bodies gain years, they become more brittle, more susceptible to injury. Older wrestlers risk heart attacks, too; even low cholesterol can't curb the inevitable rise in blood pressure when a wrestler goes to work.

What's more, retirement advocates say, wrestling is a sport for the swift and nimble. As wrestlers get older they invariably slow down, often resorting to plodding, methodical styles in place of a younger man's aerial attacks. For high-flying action, the younger the wrestler, the better.

I don't dismiss these objections. It is certainly a sad grasp at past glory when men like The Sheik and Bobo Brazil keep wrestling into their late-60s and early-70s. Even Andre the Giant, rest his soul, kept at it long after his mammoth body had warned him to quit.

And I, too, would rather see a moonsault than a headlock.

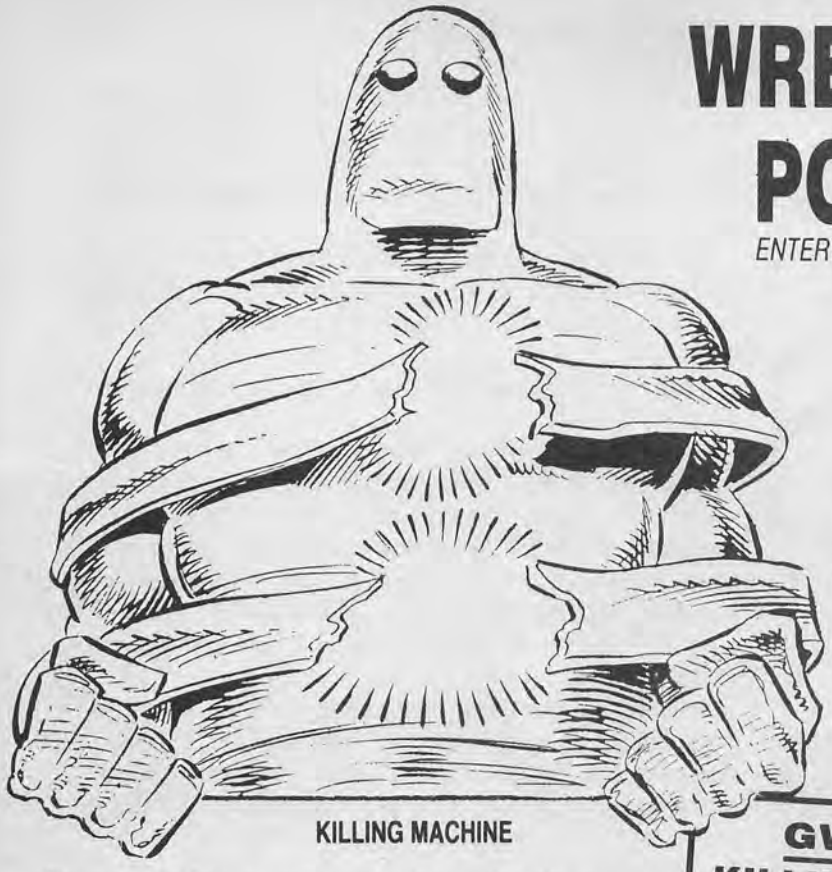
Nonetheless the notion of a retirement age of any kind is ridiculous. First of all, how could anyone arrive at a fair age to use across the board. Should we make it 30? That's silly, you say. How about 35? No? Okay, maybe 40. Still too young? I know, 45. Not good enough, huh? All right 50 ...

The point is that every body, every wrestler is different. There are plenty of 50-year-old men out there who can whip the hide off men half their age. I heard my colleague call Flair "old,"

(Continued on page 54)

WRESTLING'S MOST POPULAR GAME!

*ENTERTAINING WRESTLING FANS FOR **NINE** BIG YEARS!*



KILLING MACHINE

CHAMPIONS OF THE GALAXY WRESTLING GAME

Champions of the Galaxy is wrestling one hundred years in the future! Wrestlers in the GWF (Galactic Wrestling Federation) are wilder and more exciting than ever!

TEN BIG REASONS WHY CHAMPIONS OF THE GALAXY IS WRESTLING'S MOST POPULAR GAME!

1. THE GWF IS A REALISTIC FEDERATION! Old wrestlers retire, new wrestlers enter, there are even managers! Just like a real-life wrestling federation, the GWF is always changing! New game editions come out regularly!
2. YOU'RE THE HEAD PROMOTER! You sign the matches, set up supercards, and have tournaments for the belts!
3. THE FANS LOVE IT! What other wrestling game has inspired international fan clubs and yearly game conventions?
4. IT'S EASY TO PLAY! Champions of the Galaxy is not a complicated game. Just use the wrestler cards, dice, and action charts!
5. THE DRAWINGS ARE GREAT! Each wrestler is featured on a sturdy wrestler playing card.
6. YOU CAN PLAY ALONE OR WITH FRIENDS! Either way is fun!
7. MATCHES TAKE PLACE IN REAL TIME! A match might take five seconds or a half hour!
8. THE WRESTLERS ARE REAL PEOPLE! Description Booklets will tell you about each wrestler, including their friends and their biggest feuds!
9. THERE'S NO WRITING OR COMPUTATIONS! The game is nonstop action.
10. KILLING MACHINE SAYS SO! Who is this guy?!

GWF Feud

KILLING MACHINE vs WOLF

Do you like wrestling feuds that are all-out wars? Here's the one for you! It'll have to be settled in a Titan Death Match or a Torture Chamber Match! But you'll never experience the thrills just sitting there! Hurry and fill out the coupon below . . . before Killing Machine comes looking for you!

WOLF

Check the box for the game editions you want to order:

- ☐ **CHAMPIONS OF THE GALAXY. FIRST-TIME BUYERS – HERE'S WHERE TO START!** First edition. Features Star Warrior and Thantos. Includes everything you'll need to play the game, such as dice, action charts, instruction booklet, and 24 wrestler playing cards. Games should be bought in order, beginning with this edition . . . . . **$13.00 Total.**
- ☐ **INVASION 2088.** Features Bishop Hell . . . . . **$10.00 Total.**
- ☐ **INVASION 2089.** Features the Galactic Punisher. . . . . **$10.00 Total.**
- ☐ **INVASION 2090.** Features Cosmic Forces. . . . . **$10.00 Total.**
- ☐ **WAR GAMES 2091.** Features Mayhem. . . . . **$10.00 Total.**
- ☐ **WAR GAMES 2092.** Features Chaos. . . . . **$10.00 Total.**
- ☐ **WAR GAMES 2093.** Features Alpha Force. . . . . **$10.00 Total.**
- ☐ **SUDDEN DEATH 2094.** Features the New Order. . . . . **$10.00 Total.**
- ☐ **SUDDEN DEATH 2095.** Features Raven. . . . . **$10.00 Total.**
- ☐ **REVOLUTION 2096.** Features Vengeance. . . . . **$10.00 Total.**

BEST DEALS — First-time buyers — Get more for your money

- ☐ 2 game editions for $20 — SAVE $ 3
- ☐ 4 game editions for $35 — SAVE $ 8
- ☐ 6 game editions for $48 — SAVE $15
- ☐ 8 game editions for $59 — SAVE $24
- ☐ **All 10 game editions for $68 — SAVE $35**

Please send the game editions I've marked to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mail this coupon with a check or money order to:

Filsinger Games
P.O. Box 3493
Jamestown, NY 14702-3493

Allow up to 4 weeks for delivery. Write to Filsinger Games for a free flier containing more information.

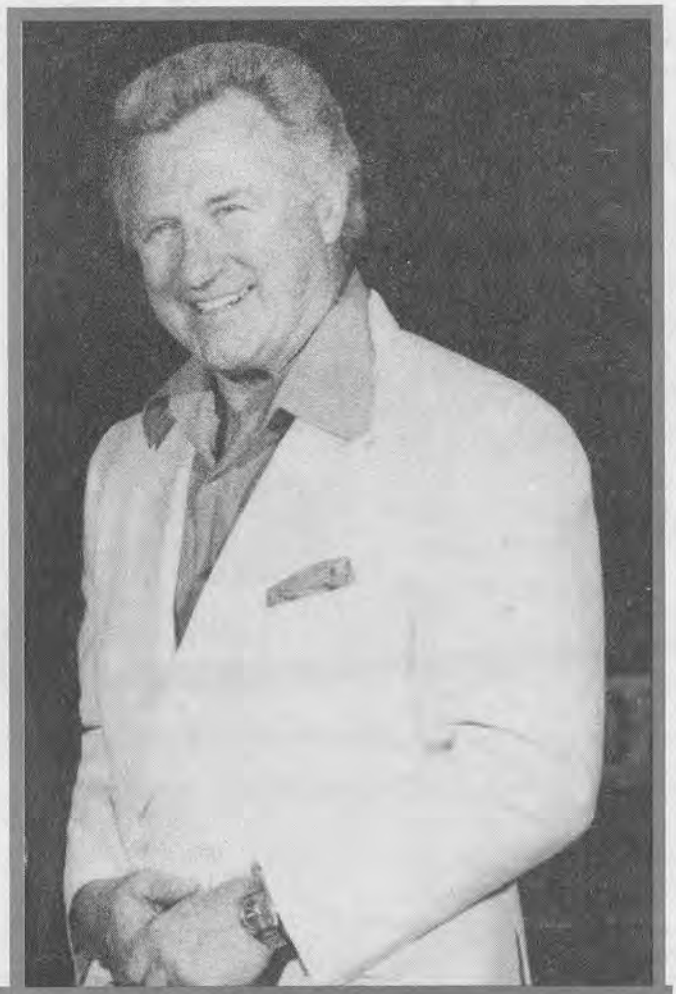
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

ORDERS FROM OUTSIDE THE U.S. ARE WELCOME!

All foreign orders must be paid for in U.S. currency. Overseas orders, add an additional 15% for postage and handling. New York orders add 7% sales tax.

in focus

By Craig Peters



Nick Bockwinkel

WCW COMMISSIONER: GOOD NEWS (MAYBE)

As this issue goes to press, there's a short list of names being circulated regarding who the new WCW commissioner is likely to be. Included on the list: Terry Funk, Verne Gagne, Red Bastien, Bruno Sammartino, and Bobby Heenan.

By the time you read this column, though, you'll probably know who the commissioner is, and if my moles in the sport are correct, it's none of those individuals.

The commissioner, I'm led to understand, will be Nick Bockwinkel.

The choice, I believe, would be an excellent one. Bockwinkel, a four-time former AWA World heavyweight champion, has one of the most sophisticated analytical minds the sport has ever known. More than that, he has the respect of almost all the active wrestlers, fan favorite and rulebreaker alike.

Now he has to focus that mind and take that respect and build on it.

Bockwinkel has a chance to make sense out of an organization that all too often makes no sense at all. For example: If titles aren't supposed to change hands on a disqualification, why did the U.S. title change hands at Starrcade when one of the two falls credited to Steve Austin's victory was a disqualification? (The answer, according to WCW, is that the deciding fall was a pin.) It makes no sense, and it's the kind of absurd inconsistency that won't slip by Bockwinkel.

The naming of Bockwinkel will have tremendous impact on WCW—that is, if his office is given real power to effect change and affect policy. If not, then there might as well not be a commissioner at all.

And if Bockwinkel is not the man chosen for the position, WCW will be all the poorer for it ... and I'll have to have a serious talk with my moles!

HOGAN VS. FLAIR: WORTH AN ENCORE?

The rumor mill has been working overtime, processing tiny bits of information and spitting out massive conclusions that result in the following claim:

Hulk Hogan and Ric Flair will wrestle each other in 1994.

It's possible. In fact, if you read last issue's cover story on the secret meeting involving Hogan, Flair, and Jimmy Hart, you might be led to believe that it is, in fact, probable.

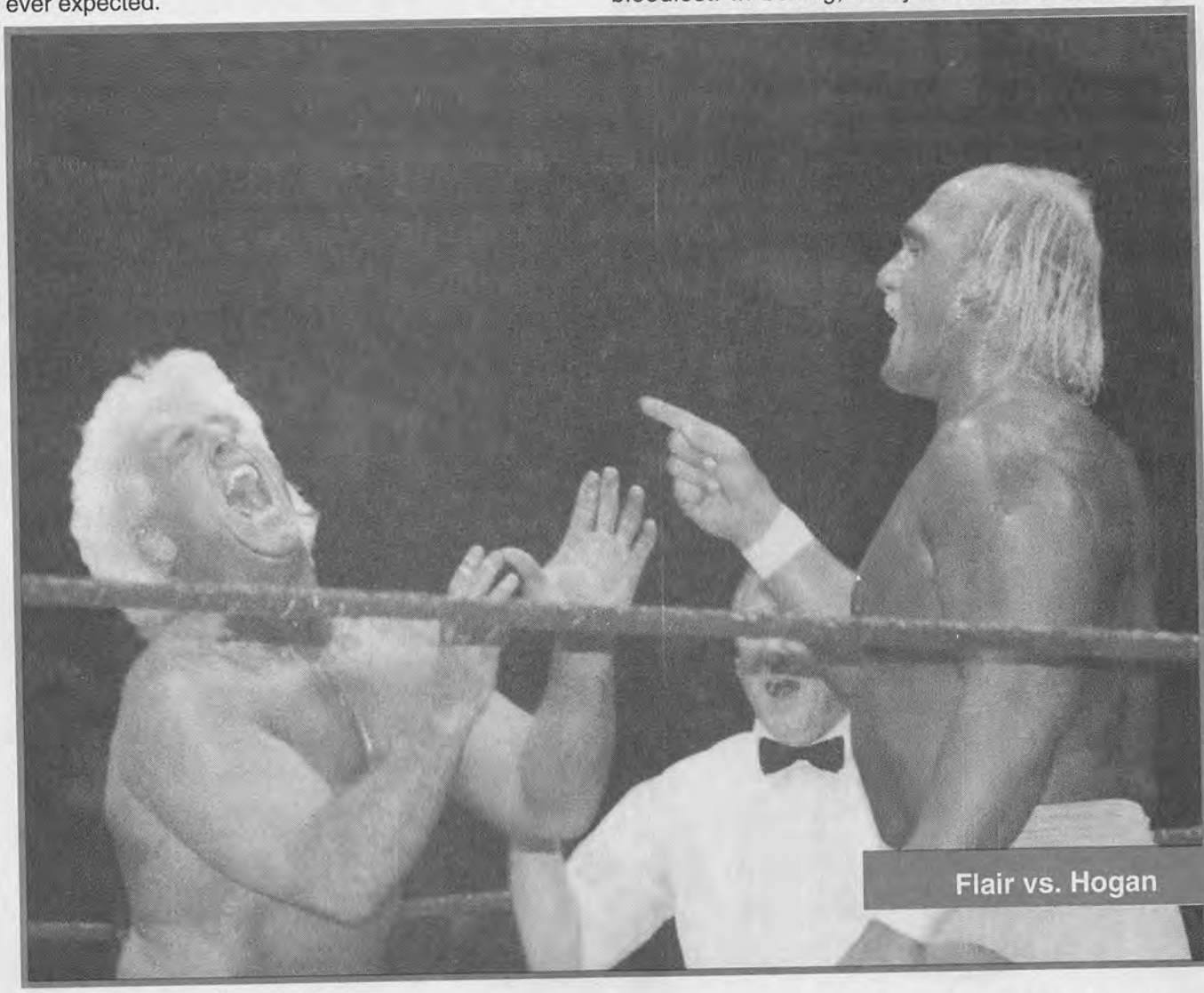
But is it desirable?

The whole issue of Hogan vs. Flair had its greatest resonance in 1985, when the "Hulkster" was in the heyday of Hulkamania and enjoying his first WWF World title reign, and the "Nature Boy" was riding high in the NWA in the midst of his third (and lengthiest) World title reign. Back then, a title vs. title match between the two would undoubtedly have drawn one of the biggest crowds in wrestling history.

Now, almost a decade later, talk of Hogan vs. Flair

persists. But let's be honest: The match today carries with it the patina of an old-timers' game rather than a meeting of two legends at the peak of their skills. If it should happen, would this match be able to transcend the curiosity factor to mean something more than, say, a Larry Holmes vs. George Foreman fight would today?

Before either Hogan or Flair signs for a bout against the other, I hope they seriously consider the ramifications of such a match. History doesn't look kindly upon athletes whose reach far exceeds their grasp ... unless, of course, their grasp is longer than anyone ever expected.



Flair vs. Hogan

WRESTLING AND AIDS— IT'S TIME FOR ACTION

When I began writing this column 12½ years ago, the only concerns I had were, more or less, what went on inside the ring, and who hated who and why.

But in recent years, wrestling has sadly grown up, absorbing into the vocabulary of the sport a host of ills that have plagued other sports. Indeed, a quick scan of recent editions of the *PWI Weekly* newsletter uncovers a troubling host of problems: indictments, steroids, stabbings, rape and sodomy charges. But there's one topic that I have yet to see addressed in any of our publications:

AIDS.

The plague of AIDS has been splashed across the newspapers of this country on a daily basis for years. The public has learned more about blood transfusions and intravenous needles over the past decade than it surely has cared to. A sports star like Arthur Ashe dies from the disease (contracted, in his case, via transfusion of tainted blood), and a nation mourns the tragedy.

Of all sports, wrestling and boxing are perhaps the bloodiest. In boxing, many cornermen wear rubber gloves as protection in case their fighter is cut open; fighters in International Boxing Federation title fights are subject to prefight AIDS testing.

Wrestling may not like to come to terms with life in the '90s, but the sport *must* consider the AIDS danger to its athletes. A policy of AIDS testing should be implemented across the board in all federations, large and small. Any match between two participants who have not tested clean in which one of the competitors is bleeding should be halted immediately.

Anything less is a tragedy waiting to happen. □

win lose or draw

BY ANDY RODRIGUEZ

Ric Flair's Starrcade match against Big Van Vader was the stuff good drama is made of. So much, in fact, that Andy Rodriguez decided to turn the battle into a one-act play.

FLAIR VS. VADER (A play in one act).
The scene is a professional wrestling ring. It stands empty, surrounded by thousands of onlookers. They are quiet. Ric FLAIR enters, stage left. The crowd cheers. He appears wary, but confident. Big Van VADER enters, stage right. He is accompanied by his manager, Harley RACE. The crowd hisses and boos. Both men appear disdainful, but confident. A bell rings.

RACE: This is the night, Flair. This is the night you retire.

VADER: Who's the man?

FLAIR: To be the man, you gotta beat the man.

RACE: Do you seriously think you can win the World title tonight? Vader intends to destroy you.

FLAIR: Vader is a man. He's big and powerful, but he's just a man. Just like you were 10 years ago tonight. Remember it, Race? Remember Starrcade '83?

RACE: Don't take refuge in the past. On the other hand, that's all you have, isn't it? There's nothing left for you.

VADER: Let's get it on!

FLAIR: Big man, I can't lose tonight. Not in front of my people, my family. Your manager has a poor sense of history. That's his problem. My problem is discovering the best way to finish you off.

RACE: You don't have the answer for everything, Flair. Maybe you did once. Maybe you found the way to get past people like Rhodes. Things are different now. Vader is a new breed. You're a dinosaur.

VADER: Extinct! Extinct!

FLAIR: I'm the best this sport has ever seen. Vader's impressive. He's an impressive champion. Size takes you a long way. Size of brains takes you further. Isn't that what you learned, Race?

RACE: When we wrestled, I didn't teach you everything I learned. Ten years ago you beat a master. The master has a new student. Say hello to him.

VADER: I don't know what you guys are talking about. I don't care. I've had this belt for a long, long time. I don't care how many times you had it, Flair. So it's a big number. That means you lost it a lot, too. When I walk out of this ring, that belt will still be mine!

FLAIR: Here's a belt ... in the mouth!

(Continued on page 52)

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION®
ADVENTURE GAME & ACCESSORIES

"IF YOU DARE TO ENTER THE WORLD OF PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING, THEN PREPARE FOR YOUR SOUL TO MEET ME ON THE DARK SIDE!"
-The Undertaker

The ***World Wrestling Federation® Basic Adventure Game*** is 176 pages of jam-packed excitement. You control the actions of the World Wrestling Federation® Superstars or create your own wrestlers and managers. Choose from over 150 wrestling maneuvers with over 300 variations. You pick the maneuvers you want your character to use! The ***World Wrestling Federation® Basic Adventure Game*** uses a wear-down system that actually takes into account the fatigue factor in prfessional wrestling. Pinfalls, Submissions, Knockouts, Ringside Brawls, Sneak Attacks, Cheap Shots, Powering Up, Interviews, Leaping-off-the-Ropes, Distracting the Referee, Tag Team Wrestling, Fan View, Disqualifications, Finishing Maneuvers,; it's all here! The ***World Wrestling Federation® Basic Adventure Game*** is the closest you can get to professional wrestling without stepping through the ropes!

STOCK NO: WHT-8002
RETAIL PRICE: $19.95

AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL RETAIL GAME, COMIC, AND BOOK STORES EVERYWHERE OR CALL

1-800-GAME-WWF

ORDERS ONLY! Open 9-5PM Central Time. Most Major Credit Cards accepted. Sorry, no C.O.D.s. There is a $2 shipping and handling fee per order. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

WHIT PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX 1397
MURRAY, KY 42071

ON SALE NOW!

® Registered trademark of TitanSports. Inc.
World Wrestling Federation and the Undertaker are registered trademarks of Titan Sports, Inc. ©1993 All Rights Reserved.

the steel cage

By Chris Bernucca

Big Van Vader is a magnificent, dominating wrestler, already among the all-time greats. But now that he's an ex-champion, he needs the same motivation Ric Flair used to unseat him for the WCW World title.

ROLE REVERSAL? In the days leading up to Ric Flair's WCW World title match against Big Van Vader at Starrcade, the "Nature Boy" knew that his illustrious career was in jeopardy. In the days leading up to their rematch at SuperBrawl, Vader probably felt the same.

For those of you who read my column, it is no secret that Vader is one of my favorite wrestlers. He is everything a wrestler should be—big, strong, and mean. He is dominant and unforgiving. He is always the favorite in his matches. He is the wrestler you love to hate, and for me that makes him the wrestler you love to love.

I have never been a fan of the underdog. I believe the NCAA basketball tournament should be pared down to 32 teams, eliminating the Santa Claras of the world. Those schools never reach the Final Four, anyway. I am against the expansion of the baseball playoffs from four to eight teams. If you can't prove yourself over 162 games, why should you be given another five to do otherwise? Dynasties are good for sports. They make the contenders work harder and the pretenders disappear.

Flair's victory over Vader was one of wrestling's biggest upsets in some time. The Kid over Razor Ramon? Please. Ramon is capable of losing to anybody. By the time you read this, announcers could be referring to him as the "former Intercontinental champion."

Vader is a different story, however. The man simply does not lose. In 1993, he was pinned once in a singles match, by Sting in a match on foreign soil, when anything from jet lag to unfamiliar food could have contributed to his demise. Six days later, he proved that loss to be a fluke by regaining the championship belt.

When you look at Vader's success rate in the ring, you wonder

what type of offensive lineman he would have made. He was, in fact, one of the best collegiate linemen during his junior and senior seasons at the University of Colorado and was a certain first-round pick; then he suffered a serious knee injury and was forced to change careers. When an offensive lineman drives his man backward and flattens him to the turf, he registers what coaches call a "pancake." Vader does the same thing in the squared circle, where it is called a pinfall.

But Vader doesn't just pin his opponents. He destroys them. Foes have a funny habit of taking a sabbatical immediately following a showdown with Vader. Sting was sidelined with broken ribs. Joe Thurman suffered a broken back and left the sport. Ron Simmons sustained a separated shoulder. And Cactus Jack was feared paralyzed and spent an extended period in both the hospital and the netherworld of amnesia.

No one expected Flair to beat Vader, least of all himself. Vader doesn't expect to lose to anybody, even if that anybody is considered the greatest wrestler in history. He didn't care about Flair's previous titles. He didn't care that Flair has always wrestled his best in his biggest matches. And he didn't care that his opponent would have the support of the fans. He was going to pulverize Flair and show everyone who was "The Man."

But what Vader didn't take into account was Flair's motivation. Had he lost, Flair's career would have been over. It said so right there in the match contract. Just three consecutive seconds beneath 450 pounds and those prior world titles would be worth about as much as an old jockstrap.

Flair has too much competitive spirit to allow his career to end in that fashion. The fear of waking up the following morning and not knowing what to do propelled him to the most remarkable victory in his 20-plus years of grappling.

If Vader can't defeat Flair and recapture the WCW World title, his reputation as one of wrestling's meanest, most intimidating men might be irreparably damaged.

Vader, on the other hand, had never encountered an opponent like Flair. Most of Vader's foes are scared to enter the ring. This one was scared to leave.

Losing is a far greater instructional tool than winning. Losing ignites a thought process that forces a competitor to look at his shortcomings and try to improve them. Winning doesn't pay attention to its shortcomings; it's too busy celebrating victory. After all, it is the bottom line.

Vader had better recognize what made Flair better than him at Starrcade, because he needed to display a similar frame of mind at SuperBrawl. Right now, Flair's victory is still regarded as what my friends at SportsTicker call a "Santa Clara." But if Vader lost again to Flair at SuperBrawl, the wrestling world must remove the "upset" tag from Flair's first victory and admit that he is, indeed, the superior wrestler.

Another loss to Flair would also have long-range effects. Vader will have gotten his rematch and would need to get in line behind Rick Rude, Steve Austin, and a host of other qualified rule-breakers. He may find himself in search of another manager, for while he and Harley Race have enjoyed a magnificent run, even the most solid wrestler-manager relationship can be ruined by a couple of key losses.

Most important, however, is that the fear factor in opponents that Vader has cultivated through an entire career will no longer exist. A second loss to Flair would give every fan favorite with 240 pounds of muscle and a submission hold the belief that Vader isn't as big, strong, and mean as he claims to be.

For Vader to succeed, he must be deathly afraid of losing, just as Flair was at Starrcade. He must understand that fear can work both ways. □

off the top rope

by Eddie Ellner

If you wish to contribute to Ellner's mailbag, send your letters to:

TOP ROPE
Box 956
Ft. Washington, PA 19034

(Editor's note: The opinions expressed in this column are those of the letter writers and Eddie Ellner himself. They do not necessarily reflect the editorial views of this magazine.)

Dear Eddie,

I really wish I could check out this ECW action in person—what's with this Stan Hansen/ Tito Santana teaming up thing? Also, I heard that Eddie Gilbert has retired. Say it ain't so. Peace.

K.C. DARKHARTE
Biloxi, MS

Dear K.C.,

First of all, Hansen and Santana haven't teamed up as of this writing. Secondly, good news for you on the Gilbert front. Eddie has relocated to Memphis—you know, that riverfront outpost in Tennessee just north of the Mississippi state line—where he's feuding with Jerry Lawler. Oh, boy.

In Memphis, Eddie Gilbert is "the man who would be king." Ellner is anything but excited over the Gilbert-Jerry Lawler rivalry, and also wonders about the background of the reader who wanted the question answered.

Now, I have some questions for you, Mr. Darkharte. Each month, several of your letters pass this desk, signed by three mysterious symbols. The first is a five-sided star enclosed by a circle—a pentagram, I believe it's called. I've seen them in old Lon Chaney Jr. werewolf movies. Are you kin to a werewolf? The second one is either the Greek symbol for woman or

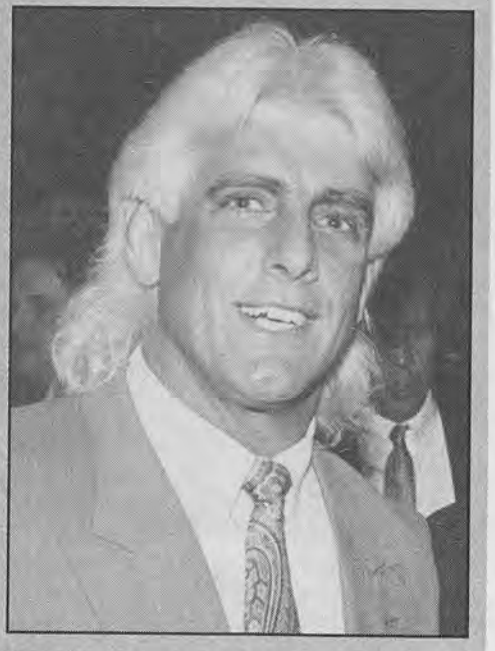
(Continued on page 58)

THE EDITORS HAD a problem with the intro: "Enough Ric Flair already!" they cried. To heck with 'em. How can you help but be a little Flair-obsessed these days? Especially when the tent's gonna fold so soon.

To even the casual Flair-watcher, it's pretty obvious how bored he is in the ring. You often hear veteran athletes confirm their love for their sport with words like, "I'd play the game for free." Many do, as is evidenced by the rise in popularity of low-paying senior leagues.

Ric Flair is no such animal. Flair cannot stand the monotony of daily wrestling life. He loathes the traveling, the mandatory title defenses, and the personal appearances that come with the belt. Flair craves the spotlight like no athlete in recent memory. He likes the sustaining image of himself as the best, and it is a measure of his skills that he can still summon an effort as he did at Starrcade against Big Van Vader.

But now that he's won the belt, what can the "Nature Boy" do with it? Defending it is certainly no fun. All that's left for him is to lose it—so he can try and win it again. Next time with one hand tied behind his back.



Now that Ric Flair is again WCW World champ, what is there for him to prove?

The Warrior Lives!

The only real "Operator of Intensity" has been summoned by the gods to break his code of silence. Find out where the Warrior has been, what he has been doing, and most important of all where our next "Main Event" is!

1-900-737-WARR*

* Warriors under 18 yrs. of age must have parental permission to call the 900#, cost is $1.50 Per. Min. - Touch tone phone required.

CALL

1-602-488-2729

For Catalog on the all NEW **Warrior Wear™ Clothing, posters, calendars** and **Workout Video!**

All too intense for non-warrior types!

(see page 17 in this magazine)

Always Believe!
Warrior

Ultimate Creations, Inc. • 8711 E. Pinnacle Peak Road # 199 • Scottsdale, AZ 85255
702-543-0303

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT WRESTLING...

Here is your chance to prove it. Take the PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED CHALLENGE and go head to head with the editors of PWI in the trivia match of your life. If you can answer seven consecutive questions correctly—without getting pinned—you can earn the title "Undisputed Wrestling Trivia Champ" and win $250 or a video game prize package supplied by Electro Brain, Corp.

CALL NOW

1-900-288-7526

0891 299 760

$1.49 per minute. Kids, get your parents' permission.

This service is available on both rotary-dialed and touch-tone phones.

NOW AVAILABLE IN THE U.K.

WIN $100 CASH PRIZE

PLUS: Each month, five runners-up will receive a video game prize package that includes six game cartridges, a *"Legends of THE RING"* poster, and key chain.

ALL-NEW QUESTIONS

If you can answer the following questions, you could be the next $250 winner!

– ACTUAL QUESTIONS –

Hulk Hogan hails from which California beach community?
1) Malibu
2) Pacific Heights
3) Venice Beach
4) Newport Beach

At what University did Ron Simmons play football?
1) Notre Dame
2) Florida State University
3) Michigan State University
4) Oglethorpe University

True or False: Giant Gonzales competed in the 1984 Olympics as a member of Argentina's water polo team
1) True
2) False

The Undertaker was once tag team partners with...
1) Lou Albano
2) Sergeant Slaughter
3) Rick Steiner
4) None of the above

How did you do? If you're up for the challenge and want to put

Wrestling Challenge Rules & Regulations
Call as often as you like. The contest begins February 1, 1994, and continues through April 30, 1994. There is no age restriction to participate. The charge for each call is $1.49 per minute. The contest is sponsored by Advanced Telecom Services and London Publishing Co. in connection with Pro Wrestling Illustrated. No purchase necessary to participate. Void in MN, NJ, LA, GA, and where prohibited by law. All unclaimed prizes will be awarded via second-chance drawing. The odds of winning are dependent upon the number of entries. Complete rules and mail-in entries are available by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to PWI TRIVIA, P. O. Box 625, Devon, PA 19333. To win, answer seven consecutive trivia questions correctly and you automatically qualify for the monthly drawing of one $250 winner. From February 1, 1994, until April 30, 1994, a total of 18 game cartridges, 3 posters, and 3 key chains will be awarded. The game cartridges will be compatible with one of the following systems: Nintendo (retail value $50), Super Nintendo (retail value $60), Game Boy (retail value $30), or Genesis/Sega (retail value $55). London Publishing Co. will select the winners and, at its discretion, select the game cartridges to be awarded. Game cartridges, posters, and key chains are provided courtesy of Electro Brain Corp. Electro Brain Corp.'s involvement in the contest is limited to offering the game cartridges, posters, and key chains only. No substitutions allowed.

1937-12-93

THE NEW WWF WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPION IS MORE THAN JUST ANOTHER TITLEHOLDER. THE HOPE IS ALUNDRA BLAYZE WILL NOT ONLY BE A GREAT CHAMPION, BUT SOMEONE WHO USHERS IN A NEW ERA FOR WOMEN'S WRESTLING

It's Do Or Die Time For Women's Wrestling: WHY ALL EYES ARE ON ALUNDRA BLAYZE

By Andy Rodriguez

THE NAME ISN'T important anymore. Madusa Miceli is gone, Alundra Blayze is here, and that is that.

On December 13, 1993, in Poughkeepsie, New York, Blayze defeated Heidi Lee Morgan to win the revived WWF Women's World title. It was the final match of a tournament that featured some of the finest female grapplers on this continent.

Blayze's triumph not only revived a title dormant since 1990, but revived the hopes and dreams of those who yearn to see women wrestlers get the same respect and acclaim as their male

counterparts. They believe Blayze is the one who can pull it off, that her stunning combination of athleticism, beauty, and charisma can attract new attention to the sport and raise women's wrestling in North America to its greatest heights of popularity.

It's a tough task, and even those who have feuded with her in the past are rooting for her to succeed.

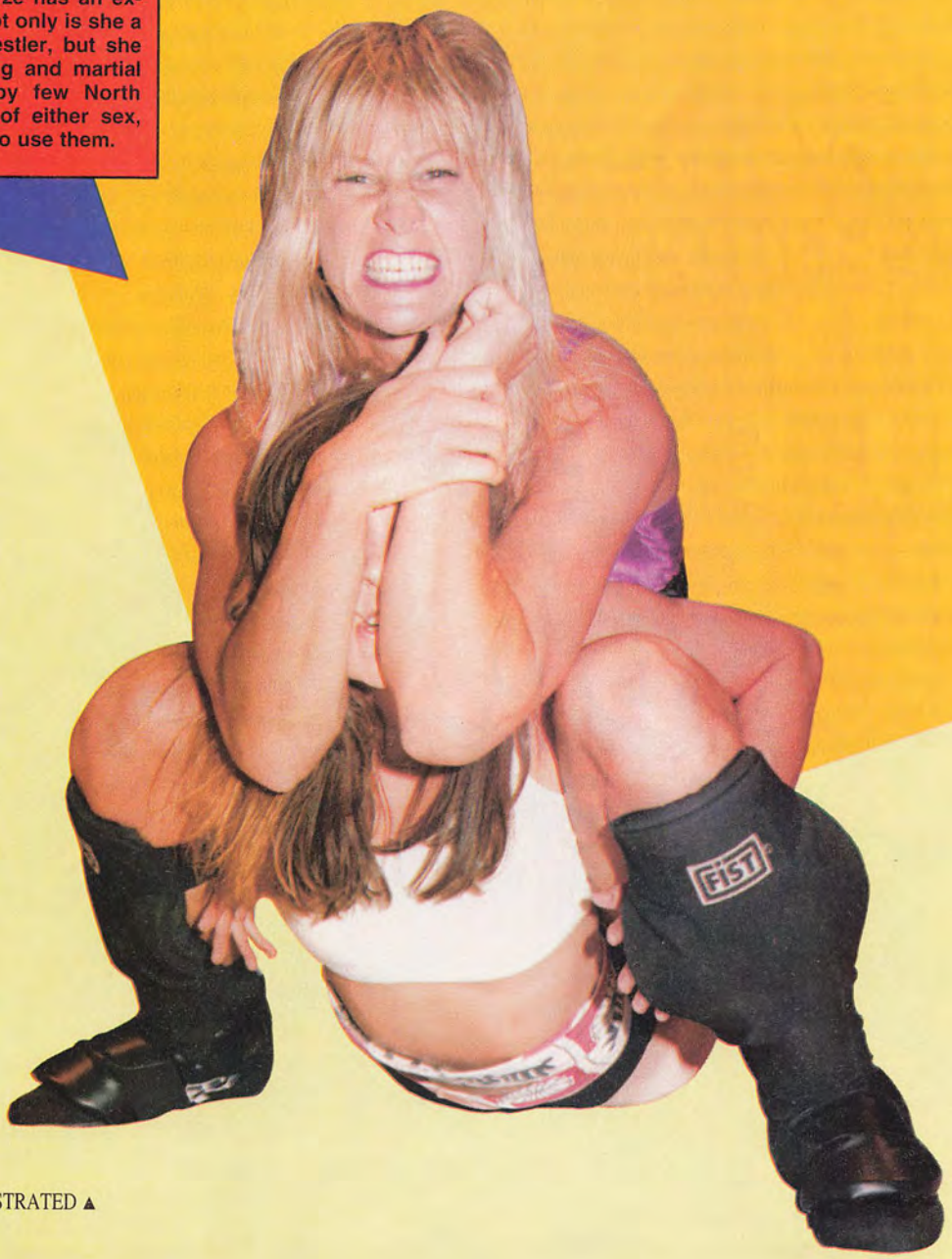
"She has a tremendous weight on her shoulders," said Wendi Richter, who captured the AWA Women's belt from Blayze in 1988. "A lot of folks are looking at her to be a savior. It's unfair, but it was inevitable. She has to just do the best she can and let things fall into place."

Richter speaks from experience. In 1984, when she ended Fabulous Moolah's astounding 28-year reign as World champion, Richter was touted as the athlete who would sweep women's wrestling into a glorious future.

It looked good for a while. Buoyed by her alliance with pop star Cyndi Lauper, Richter dazzled and delighted fans with her effervescent ring style. But after Moolah recaptured the belt from her late in 1985, Richter's fortunes took a dive. Though she continues to compete and do well, she has never been as popular as she was in her title days. And when she went down, the whole women's side of the sport went with her.

"That's the problem, as I see it," said former AWA and WWF titlist Sherri

The charismatic Blayze has an extensive repertoire. Not only is she a superb technical wrestler, but she possesses kickboxing and martial arts skills rivaled by few North American grapplers of either sex, and she knows how to use them.



Martel. "We heap all our expectations on one lady. Seems every year a new gal comes along who's gonna 'save' women's wrestling. First, it was Wendi, then it was Misty Blue Simmes. They thought it'd be me for a while, not to mention Magnificent Mimi and Terri Power and even Rockin' Robin. But one woman can't do it alone."

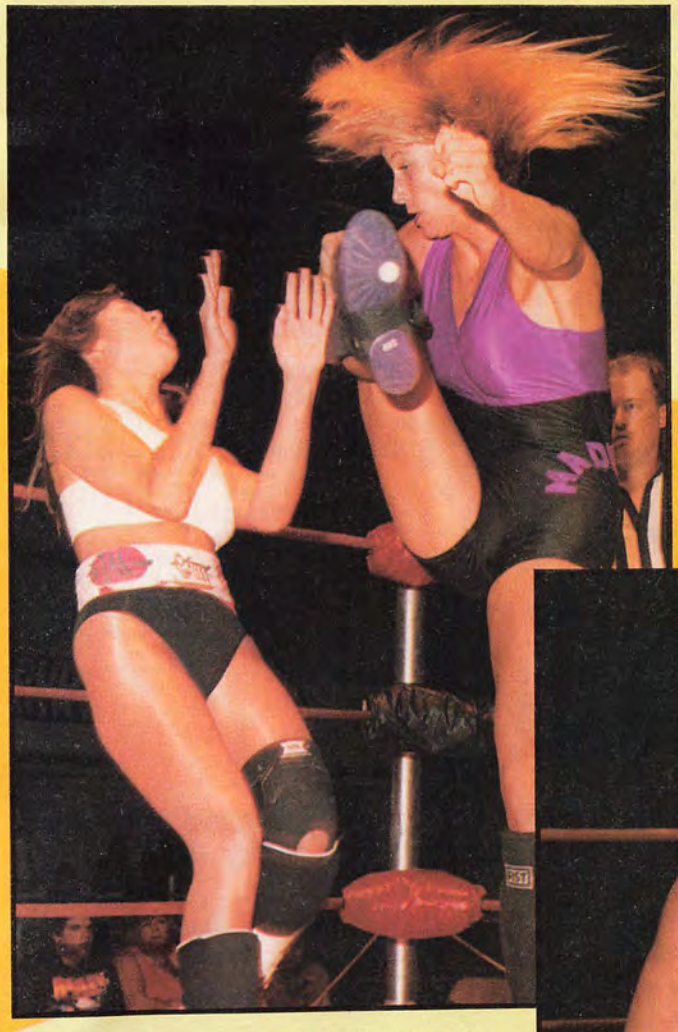
That's what a group of promoters thought when they formed the Ladies' Professional Wrestling Alliance a few years ago. They believed that by providing a permanent league for women, they would create fan interest. The organization's goals were admirable, but it was short-lived.

"We busted our butts every night," said Power, the LPWA's finest champion. "We wrestled as hard and as well as the guys. We had a very loyal following, but a relatively small one. Women's wrestling just isn't popular here the way it is in Japan."

Indeed, fans in Japan support several women's organizations. The matches are dramatic and action-packed, generating an intensity the LPWA failed to duplicate. Power, Debbie Malenko, and other U.S. wrestlers have traveled to Tokyo to continue their careers. Blayze has often said that Japan was where she truly learned how to wrestle, even though she had won the AWA title before she first journeyed across the Pacific.

In Japan, Blayze was a smashing success. She won acclaim not only as a wrestler, but as a kickboxer. She became so popular that she even

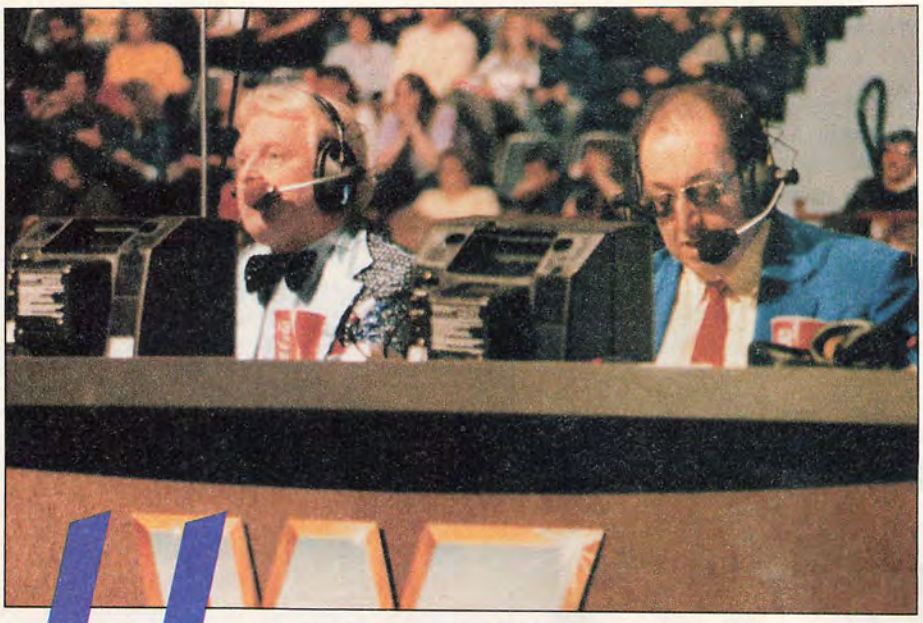
(Continued on page 56)



Over the years, Blayze has fought and feuded with many other women rivals. But Richter, Sherri Martel, and others are pulling for her to succeed, since it will help boost their popularity as well.

press conference...

Bobby Heenan



Bobby Heenan and Gorilla Monsoon were uneasy broadcast partners. The alliance finally ended last year when Monsoon booted "The Brain" out of the WWF.

THERE ARE A handful of sports broadcasters who add insight and flavor to the events they cover. In basketball, Marv Albert and Bill Raftery stand above the rest; in football, no one can get you into a game quite like the team of Pat Summerall and John Madden; and in baseball, the work of Vin Scully and Ernie Harwell are unparalleled.

Late in 1993, wrestling lost its dominant voice. Bobby Heenan, the longtime announcer for the WWF, was unceremoniously booted out of the federation at a TV taping of ***WWF Monday Night Raw*** *in White Plains, New York. The dismissal marked the end of a long, often loud feud between Heenan and Gorilla Monsoon, another longtime announcer for the WWF who shared neither Heenan's opinions nor his quick wit.*

Perhaps Monsoon's actions stemmed from jealousy. "The Brain," as Heenan is also known, also possessed a keen eye for talent and made quite a name for himself as a manager as well. It was Heenan who made Nick Bockwinkel the dominant AWA champion he was in the '70s and '80s and who helped Ric Flair capture the WWF World title when the "Nature Boy" entered the federation in 1991. And regardless of Lex Luger's current stance, it was Heenan who brought the "Narcissist" into the WWF, paving the way for his success.

Heenan professes no bitterness toward the WWF and only a modicum of abhorrence toward Monsoon. He recently sat down with Senior Writers Chris Bernucca and Dave Rosenbaum and Associate Publisher Craig Peters and, between jokes, waxed optimistic about his future, wherever it may be.

BOBBY HEENAN: Three writers?! Is this an interview or an interrogation?

CHRIS BERNUCCA: It's an interview, Bobby. We usually use three in "Press Conference" for impartiality.

HEENAN: Am I up for a Supreme Court nomination? Usually those guys have to answer a lot of questions.

DAVE ROSENBAUM: Sorry, Bobby. The only court you could ever be part of is a kangaroo court.

HEENAN: Better a kangaroo than a gorilla.

CRAIG PETERS: Do I detect a bit of resentment in your voice?

HEENAN: I knew you guys were going to ask about it, so we might as well get it out of the way. There is no love lost between myself and Gorilla Monsoon. I was simply the more popular on-air personality and he had a big problem with that, because he was there first and I stole some of his popularity. We didn't see eye-to-eye on just about anything. It's a wonder we lasted as long as we did.

ROSENBAUM: Then why did you have to go, instead of him? You said yourself that you were more popular.

HEENAN: I was. Still am. You notice they haven't decided on a full-time replacement for me yet?

BERNUCCA: Then why was it decided that you had to go, instead of Monsoon or someone else?

HEENAN: Everyone knows that the WWF is a fan favorite federation, and it starts at the top with Vince McMahon and Jack Tunney. If you're in the corner of the rulebreakers—as I often was—you don't have the ear of the decision-makers. Monsoon has always been McMahon's lackey. I think he was afraid to challenge him. That's what made me a better announcer than him. I wasn't ever afraid to speak my mind, even if I knew what I was saying didn't thrill the audience or my colleagues.

PETERS: That's what makes a good announcer.

HEENAN: Why don't you tell that to Monsoon? I rarely agreed with what he had to say, but I respected his right to say it. He never gave me the same respect. He thought I was undermining him and trying to embarrass him, but I was just presenting the other side of the argument. Believe me, I need bigger challenges in life than embarrassing Gorilla Monsoon.

"Believe me, I need bigger challenges in life than embarrassing Gorilla Monsoon ... What can be said about a man whose name means 'heavy rainstorm of mandrills?'"

ROSENBAUM: What do you mean?

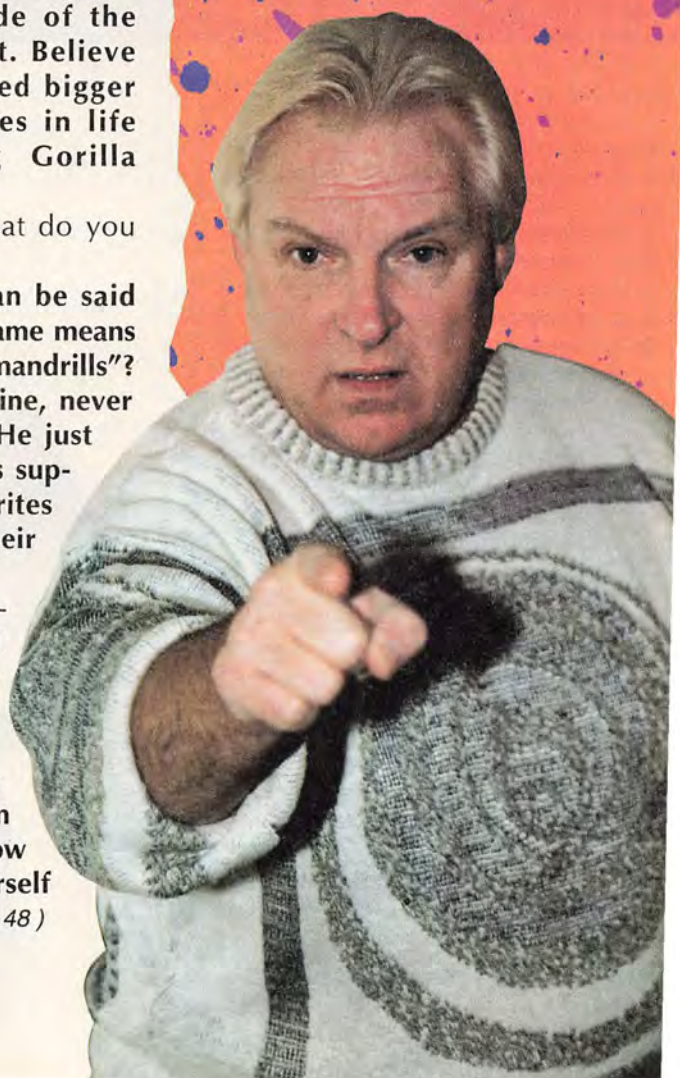
HEENAN: What can be said about a man whose name means "heavy rainstorm of mandrills"? The guy just falls in line, never does his homework. He just automatically puts his support behind fan favorites without evaluating their ring skills.

BERNUCCA: McMahon often chided you on the air for digressing. Was he truly upset with you?

HEENAN: I guess you'd have to ask him that question. All I know is you can't take yourself

(Continued on page 48)

Every issue, reporters from PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED will participate in an incisive press conference with a top wrestling star. The questions will be demanding. And the answers will reveal the innermost thoughts of the giants of the sport.



WRESTL RETROS

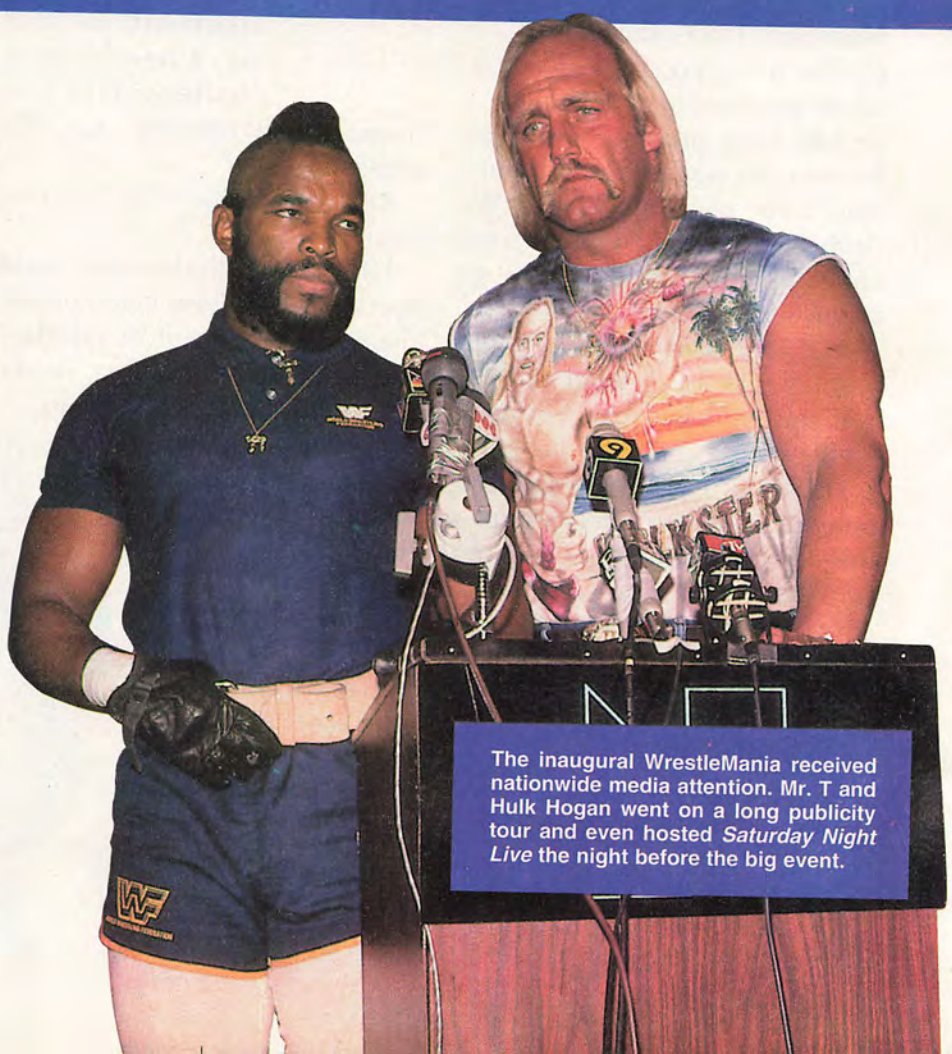
How I Through IX Changed The Sport Forever

WRESTLEMANIA I *took place on March 31, 1985, at New York's Madison Square Garden ... The event was seen on closed-circuit television at an estimated 135 locations.*

The inaugural WrestleMania was a happening the likes of which the sport of professional wrestling had never seen before. It received a great deal of media attention, garnering coverage in magazines such as *Time, Newsweek,* and *People.* Hulk Hogan and Mr. T went on a nationwide publicity tour to promote their match against "Rowdy" Roddy Piper and Paul Orndorff. The night before WrestleMania, they co-hosted *Saturday Night Live.*

However, all the publicity was not positive. On *Hot Properties,* a cable-TV show hosted by comedian Richard Belzer, Hogan demonstrated a front-facelock on Belzer. The comedian fell to the floor and hit his head, receiving a wound that required eight stitches to close. Belzer later sued Hogan and Titan Sports, settling out of court in January 1990 for an undisclosed sum of money.

There were a host of celebrities in attendance. Cyndi Lauper was there as Wendi Richter's manager. For the main event,



The inaugural WrestleMania received nationwide media attention. Mr. T and Hulk Hogan went on a long publicity tour and even hosted *Saturday Night Live* the night before the big event.

EMANIA PECTIVE

After the hype had ended, it was time to wrestle. Mr. T wrestled well in his first-ever match; he and Hogan beat Paul Orndorff and Roddy Piper.

Liberace was guest timekeeper, Billy Martin was ring announcer, and Muhammad Ali was the outside-the-ring referee. And, of course, Mr. T actually got in the ring.

Ironically, as big as this event was, it has been the only WrestleMania in which the WWF World title was not up for grabs. In February 1985, Hogan defended his belt against Piper. The match ended in a melee involving Hogan, Piper, Mr. T, Orndorff, and the New York City police department. It set up the showdown with Piper and Orndorff.

Although Mr. T had never before wrestled professionally, he turned in a respectable performance. He and the "Hulkster" won the long-awaited confrontation when Hogan pinned Orndorff.

In 1984, Cyndi Lauper had managed Richter to an upset victory over The Fabulous Moolah, ending Moolah's 28-year reign as World Women's champion. Early in 1985, Richter was herself upset by Lelani Kai. In their rematch at WrestleMania, the champion Kai was accompanied by Moolah. But Moolah's expertise didn't help Kai, as Richter recaptured the title.

The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff's victory over Barry Windham and Mike Rotundo was the biggest upset of the night. Managed by Capt. Lou Albano, Windham and Rotundo were expected to enjoy a long title reign. But Fred Blassie had other plans. At a critical point in the match, Sheik hit Windham over the head with Blassie's cane, allowing Volkoff to score the pin. Windham and Rotundo would get their revenge and win back the belts three months later.

Before WrestleMania, Big John Studd had claimed that he'd never been slammed, and he had $15,000 waiting for any man who could accomplish the feat. Andre the Giant took up Studd's challenge and beat him. When Andre started to throw the money out to the crowd, Studd's manager, Bobby Heenan, grabbed the cash away from him and ran from the ring.

The Intercontinental title was also on the line, as Greg "The Hammer" Valentine made a successful defense against Junkyard Dog. King Kong Bundy, who would meet Hogan in the main event at WrestleMania II, pinned S.D. Jones in nine seconds, tying the record for the quickest pin at Madison Square Garden.

"Living Legend" Bruno Sammartino seconded his son David as the younger Sammartino faced Brutus Beefcake, managed by Johnny Valiant. To the delight of Garden fans, Bruno got involved in the match, but only because Valiant interfered first.

The first WrestleMania may not have been the best, but it was a history-making event that changed the face of wrestling.

WRESTLEMANIA II *took place April 7, 1986 ... Three locations (The Nassau*

Coliseum in Uniondale, New York; The Rosemont Horizon just outside of Chicago; and the Los Angeles Sports Arena) each hosted four matches and offered the balance of the card via closed-circuit television ... The card was also broadcast to more than 200 closed-circuit locations around the country, and was made available by the WWF on home cable systems through pay-per-view television in 192 markets nationwide.

To their credit, the WWF *did* try to top WrestleMania. In 1986, WrestleMania II took place in three locations rather than one, the event was available to far more people via cable and closed-circuit TV, and the number of celebrities involved was expanded more than fourfold, from six to 25.

But the bottom line, even to the WWF who openly promoted themselves as "sports entertainment" rather than professional wrestling, is the wrestling. Joan Rivers and William Perry and Susan St. James and Ray Charles may offer entertaining diversions, but the fan who is going to pay the $15-$100 ticket prices asked of him is looking for solid action and excitement in the ring.

In this respect, WrestleMania II was a mixed success. Of the 12 matches on the card, two will be remembered as true classics: The British Bulldogs' capturing the WWF World tag team belts from Greg Valentine and Brutus Beefcake, and WWF World champion Hulk Hogan's cage match victory over King Kong Bundy.

However, Magnificent Muraco's match with Paul Orndorff, on paper a great contest, failed to live up to even a fraction of its promise; WWF Intercontinental champion Randy Savage's match with George Steele provided some humorous cabaret as Steele lusted after Miss Elizabeth, but the action in the ring was virtually nonexistent; Cpl. Kirchner's "battle" against Nikolai Volkoff was anything but a battle. And the Roddy Piper-Mr. T boxing match was nothing short of a complete embarrassment for Piper, for T, and for the WWF. That's four duds out of a possible 12; fully one-third of the card.

The other six matches fell somewhere between mildly interesting and very good, with the Funks vs. Junkyard Dog and Tito Santana bout closest to the latter.

It's interesting to note that in promoting WrestleMania II, the WWF concentrated on hyping the celebrities rather than the wrestlers. If the promoters did so to draw national media attention, they failed; mainstream coverage of WrestleMania II was far below that of the first WrestleMania.

Was WrestleMania II a financial success? It's hard to say. The Rosemont Horizon was nearly half empty (the building seats 18,000), which had to be a disappointment considering that the highly touted invitational battle royal was held there. Additionally, the WWF was quoted in several newspapers as claiming a closed-circuit audience of 1.4 million fans, and a pay-per-view audience of 800,000 homes. It's virtually impossible to verify the closed-circuit figure, and Steven Rosenberg of Paul Kagan Associates, publishers of the largest pool of cable industry publications in the country, doubts the pay-per-view figure. "If the WWF did in fact reach that many homes," he said, "it would make WrestleMania II one of the most successful pay-per-view ventures ever, so why wouldn't they reveal their numbers?"

One thing is certain: No matter what the final numbers, it is safe to say that more people saw WrestleMania II than had ever before seen any wrestling card in the history of the sport.

A boxing match between Mr. T and Roddy Piper proved to be an embarrassment for both. T won by disqualification when Piper bodyslammed him.

WrestleMania II was held in three different locations. One of the best bouts saw WWF World champ Hogan conquer King Kong Bundy in a brutal cage match.

And when these people think of the event, the images they're likely to have are of Roddy Piper and Mr. T's feeble attempts at boxing, of Hulk Hogan dropping over the cage to the floor of the L.A. Sports Arena, of George Steele's lovesick drooling over Elizabeth, of Adrian Adonis' strutting in front of Uncle Elmer, and of The British Bulldogs' teamwork and skill in capturing the WWF tag team belts.

Hogan and the Bulldogs: two out of five isn't too bad. Then again, with so many people watching, it probably should have been a lot better.

WRESTLEMANIA III *took place Sunday, March 29, 1987 ... The event was held at the Silverdome in Pontiac, Michigan, near Detroit ... The card was shown at more than 160 closed-circuit locations around the United States and Canada, and made available to more than 5.5-million pay-per-view households.*

This time, the WWF finally got it right. WrestleMania III lived up to all expectations. It was, without a doubt, the most successful event in wrestling history.

A preoccupation with boxing matches and celebrities such as Cyndi Lauper and Mr. T clouded the first two WrestleManias. In 1987, the WWF finally stuck to wrestling—and got its just reward. A record indoor crowd of 93,173 fans packed the Silverdome to capacity, some paying $100 for a ringside seat. Hundreds of thousands more in the U.S. and Canada watched on closed-circuit television. When everything is added up, the total gross from WrestleMania III should be nearly $25-million.

To its credit, the WWF proved that it learned from its mistakes with WrestleMania

WRESTLEMANIA II

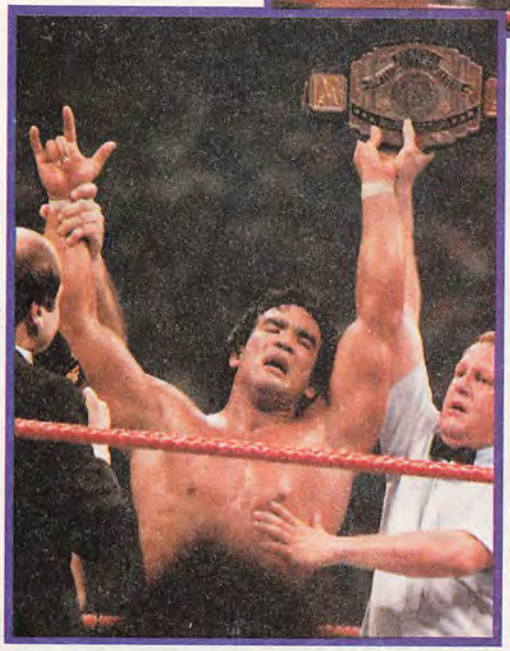
III. In 1986, WrestleMania II was held at three sites, each hosting four matches. Attendance was disappointing. The three-site idea was also impractical from a television standpoint because the WWF required separate broadcasting crews for each venue.

This year, the WWF consolidated its efforts. It chose to hold the event at only one site: the Silverdome in Pontiac, Michigan. Plenty of seats (more that 93,000), proximity to Ontario, Canada (where WWF fan interest is enormous), and simpler logistics were the obvious advantages. Of course, Vince McMahon could have done everything right—from the television production to the virtual elimination of celebrities to the choice of a site—but it would all have been moot without the main event, thought by many to be the most appealing match in the sport's history. The undefeated Andre the Giant vs. WWF World champion Hulk Hogan for the heavyweight title.

Although Hogan-Andre was hardly a battle of two highly accomplished athletes—Hogan relied mostly on his strength, while Andre was far past his prime and far above his ideal weight—the match certainly lived up to its advance billing. Andre almost pinned Hogan after just a few seconds, but he eventually succumbed to the champion despite dominating most of the match.

But Hogan-Andre was not the best match on the card. That status was reserved for Rick Steamboat's Intercontinental title victory over Randy Savage. There were 19 two-counts in this match, 11 by Steamboat, and much of the action in this fast-paced battle took place high above the mat and outside the ring.

There were other memorable moments in WrestleMania III, including Brutus Beefcake and Greg Valentine's severe falling-out during their victory over Jacques & Raymond Rougeau, plus Roddy Piper's victory in his retirement match against Adrian Adonis, in which he enlisted Beefcake's help to shave Adonis' head. Piper's final exit from the ring was a touching scene, as the crowd stood and cheered the "Rowdy Scot."



Rick Steamboat looks exhausted as he raises the Intercontinental belt he won at WrestleMania III. After defeating Randy Savage in the card's best bout, he had reason to be.

Roddy Piper finally heard cheers at a WrestleMania card: He beat Adrian Adonis in his retirement match, then he and Brutus Beefcake shaved Adonis' head.

The other matches ranged from outstanding (The Can-Am Connection's win over Magnificent Muraco and Bob Orton) to the very good (Danny Davis and The Hart Foundation's defeat of The British Bulldogs and Tito Santana) to the not-so-good (Harley Race's pin of Junkyard Dog) to the awful (the six-man midget/heavyweights match). In all, though, the WWF certainly made the most of its bulging talent pool.

The WWF set a new standard of success with WrestleMania III. This is the card by which all other big shows will be judged. It is, in fact, the WrestleMania by which all WrestleManias will be judged. From every standpoint, the card was an overwhelming success. Financially, it was the highest-grossing show in the sport's history. From a wrestling standpoint, it could barely be faulted. Even the television broadcast of the card was up to the highest standards of sports programming.

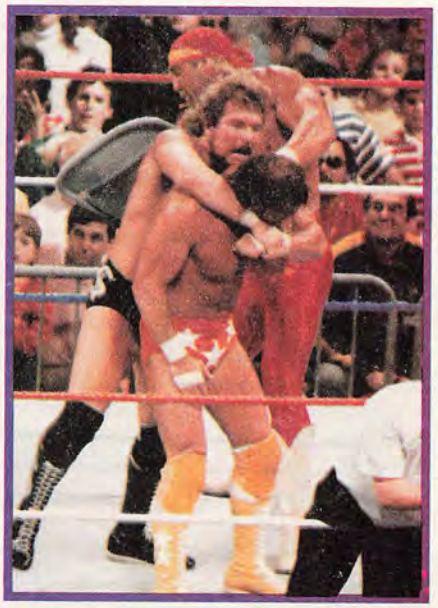
WrestleMania III did, indeed, make history. It will never be forgotten.

WRESTLEMANIA IV *took place Sunday, March 27, 1988 ... It was held at the Atlantic City Convention Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey ... Co-hosted by Trump Plaza hotel ... Shown at more that 165 closed-circuit locations around the United States and Canada, and made available to more than nine-million pay-per-view cable households.*

If WrestleMania III was the WrestleMania by which all future and past WrestleManias will be judged, WrestleMania IV was a failure. Despite all the hoopla surrounding the WWF World title tournament, there was nothing on the card to match last year's Randy Savage vs. Rick Steamboat bout. And Andre the Giant vs. Hulk Hogan III didn't come close to matching the original.

Judged on its own merits, however, WrestleMania IV was nothing for the WWF to be ashamed of. Nearly 20,000 fans packed the Atlantic City Convention Center at ticket prices ranging from $25 to $150. While more than 93,000 fans attended WrestleMania III, higher ticket prices allowed the WWF to actually gross more on WrestleMania IV's live gate. Hundreds of thousands more in the U.S. and Canada watched on closed-circuit and pay-per-view television. When all is said and done, WrestleMania IV figures to gross about $20-million.

Not a bad day's work.



A tournament to determine a new WWF World champ was held at WrestleMania IV. Hogan didn't win it, but his interference helped Savage defeat Ted DiBiase in the final.

Remember when Bret Hart was a rulebreaker? He was despised by most of the fans at WrestleMania IV, but he ended up brawling with fellow villain Bad News Brown (left) at the end of a battle royal.

The bottom line, however, must be the event itself. The WWF World title tournament was significant enough to make even the least-enticing matchup exciting. A World champion was going to be crowned on March 27 in Atlantic City, and any of 14 wrestlers were eligible to win. There was hardly a Match of the Year candidate on the card, but several matches will long be remembered: Andre and Hogan battled to a double-disqualification in the second round. Then, with Andre and Hogan in opposite corers, Randy Savage and Ted DiBiase engaged in a thrilling battle in the final round; Savage emerged the winner when Hogan interfered. Will anybody ever forget Hogan's grand entrance midway through that match?

There were other memorable moments at WrestleMania IV: Bret Hart and Bad News Brown, two hated rulebreakers, came to blows at the conclusion of the battle royal; Jimmy Hart had his head shaved by Brutus Beefcake after "The Barber" defeated The Honky Tonk Man by disqualification; Demolition shocked Strike Force to win the World tag team championship.

Love it or hate it, WrestleMania IV, like its predecessors, took a fine place in wrestling history.

WRESTLEMANIA V *was held April 2, 1989, at the Atlantic City Convention Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey ... Co-hosted by Trump Plaza hotel ... Shown at more than 125 closed-circuit locations throughout the United States and Canada, and made available to more than 10-million pay-per-view households.*

Once again, WrestleMania was an astounding financial success. A sellout crowd of nearly 20,000 fans paid up to $150 a ticket. Ticket scalpers asked as much as $300 for ringside seats. Hundreds of thousands of fans in the U.S. and Canada watched the event on pay-per-view or closed-circuit TV. The videocassette of the event and concession revenues should bring the WWF's gross far above the $20-million mark. Astounding.

The show, however, had its problems. For the second straight year, WrestleMania was held in the Atlantic City Convention Center, a cavernous building with a football field-sized floor. Because Trump Plaza hoped to draw high-rollers to the event, many of the people present weren't wrestling fans at all. So at times the crowd seemed disinterested; in reality, it takes rabid fans—and a great deal of screaming—to bring the noise level up in the Convention Center.

For most of the afternoon, they didn't have much to scream about. Several matches were deserving of ordinary arena undercard status. Guest appearances by Morton Downey Jr. and Run D.M.C. did little to stimulate the crowd, even those who had come for the celebrity show.

But there were several moments when the crowd did come alive. World tag team champs Demolition overcame a two-on-three disadvantage to defeat Warlord, Barbarian, and manager Mr. Fuji. Roddy Piper and Jimmy Snuka made special appearances and were greeted with loud ovations. The crowd groaned when Rick Rude defeated The Ultimate Warrior for the Intercontinental title, thanks to the interference of Bobby Heenan.

The real reason to be in Atlantic City, however, was to see World champion Randy Savage defend his title against former Megapowers partner Hulk Hogan. If a card can be judged by its main event alone, WrestleMania V was a success. This was a memorable match that had everything: the presence of Elizabeth, a dominating Savage performance, a great Hogan comeback, and a title change.

WrestleMania V ended like WrestleManias

Former Megapowers partners Hogan and Savage battled for the World title at WrestleMania V. The "Macho Man" wrestled brilliantly, but the match ended with another Hogan celebration.

It wasn't a great pay-per-view for all the WWF's fan favorites. The Ultimate Warrior lost the Intercontinental title to Rick Rude when Bobby Heenan held his leg during the pin.

I through IV: with Hogan celebrating in the center of the ring and the crowd cheering wildly. What a moment!

WRESTLEMANIA VI *was held on April 1, 1990, at Skydome in Toronto, Ontario … A crowd of 67,678 combined for a paid gate of more than $4-million Canadian … An estimated 500,000 homes paid $29.95 each to watch the card on pay-per-view TV … The estimated gross receipts were $18-million, including live gate, closed-circuit, and PPV.*

The Ultimate Showdown between Intercontinental champion The Ultimate Warrior and WWF World champion Hulk Hogan captured the imagination of fans worldwide like few other WrestleManias. The reason for the appeal was simple: It was a battle of Hogan vs. the future.

Or so we thought.

The card was an astounding financial success (even considering the dollar exchange rate) and an artistic success as well. Forget, for a moment, that the WWF did its usual name-dropping by inviting Steve Allen, Mary Tyler Moore, and gossip monger Rona Barrett to its big bash. Forget, if you can, Ms. Barrett's embarrassing stab at journalism and her not-so-revealing interview with Elizabeth.

A changing of the guard of sorts took place when I-C champ Warrior pinned World champ Hogan. After the match, Hogan hugged his foe and granted him the spotlight.

There've been a few lighter moments at various WrestleManias. At WrestleMania VI in 1989, Greg Valentine and Honky Tonk Man gave a brief concert. The Bushwhackers silenced them in the subsequent match.

At WrestleMania VI, everything went right.

Well, just about everything.

We were forced to endure a love ballad by The Honky Tonk Man and Greg Valentine, but The Bushwhackers wasted no time silencing these musical misfits. The world could have done without Rick Martel vs. Koko B. Ware (Martel won by submission) and Hercules vs. Earthquake (Earthquake won mercifully quickly by pinfall). Also embarrassing was the match pitting Dusty Rhodes and Sapphire against Randy Savage and Sensational Sherri. The only high point: Elizabeth's appearance at ringside.

WrestleMania VI had plenty of glitz and, sometimes, not much action. But one match made the entire afternoon worthwhile and memorable: Hogan vs. Warrior was a main event that didn't need an undercard. It was voted 1990's Match of the Year.

Hogan vs. Warrior was a rare title vs. title match, although it didn't take a genius to tell that Hogan wanted no part of the Warrior's title. Only the World belt, and a healthy amount of pride, really mattered.

It was also a battle of two friends who were briefly at odds. Never before has a WrestleMania main event been created out of mutual respect.

The Warrior's victory made him the WWF's first dual champion and ended Hogan's second title reign at 364 days. It was the third straight WrestleMania in which the World title changed hands and the first that didn't end with Hogan celebrating in the ring. Hogan handed the belt to the Warrior, gave him a victory hug, and left the spotlight to the new champion.

The match lasted 22 minutes 51 seconds, and the intensity never waned. Afterward, WWF President Jack Tunney refused to sanction a rematch. "I cannot in clear conscience allow these two men to once again batter each other beyond the point of exhaustion, past the threshold of pain, and at the expense of risking torturous injury."

Hogan called the decision "Ga-ga." Nonetheless, most people thought Hogan and the Warrior would meet in future WrestleManias. It hasn't happened; it probably never will.

WRESTLEMANIA VII *was held March 24, 1991, at the Los Angeles Sports Arena in Los Angeles, California … Originally scheduled for the 90,000-seat Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, but moved to the 15,333-capacity Arena because of security concerns … Shown at more than 100 closed-circuit locations in Canada and Europe and made available to more than 15-million pay-per-view households.*

WrestleMania VII wasn't one of the WWF's better pay-per-view events. It *was* great, however, for The Nasty Boys. Thanks to Jimmy Hart's interference, they won the tag belts from The Hart Foundation.

From the moment the Persian Gulf War broke out on January 16, 1991, the main event of WrestleMania VI between Hulk Hogan and Sgt. Slaughter took on special meaning. Hogan, the "Real American," would try to regain the

WRESTLEMANIA VI

Ultimate Warrior beat Savage in a retirement match. The "Macho Man," however, only left the mat sport temporarily and made a successful return.

WWF World title from the former Marine drill sergeant who suddenly and shockingly expressed his sympathies with the enemy, Iraq.

So the WrestleMania VII main event wasn't just a match. It was another battle in a war that was already over, but still very much alive in the hearts of Americans. This was U.S. vs. The World.

The WWF and Coliseum officials considered the threat of terrorism so great that the card was moved to the much smaller Sports Arena. But there was more to their concerns than met the eye: Ticket sales had been lagging and the WWF feared a half-empty house for its big day.

Instead, it got a sellout as fans paid up to $100 a ticket for the privilege of watching Hogan win his record-setting third WWF World title. The WWF proved once again that it can sell its big event, even with a subpar undercard. People would come to see Hogan.

Although the fans didn't leave disappointed, not a single WrestleMania match finished in the top four in the Match of the Year voting. The WWF had seen better days.

Hogan-Slaughter was a vicious battle. The advantage changed hands several times and turned for good when Slaughter covered Hogan with the Iraqi flag. When Hogan realized he'd been covered with the flag, he flew into a rage, tore the flag in half, and went on to victory.

WrestleMania VI saw the emergence of The Nasty Boys as the team of Jerry Sags and Brian Knobs won their first world tag team title. They upset The Hart Foundation, thanks to manager Jimmy Hart's interference.

But WrestleMania VI was basically a lukewarm event. The matches were of nothing more than run-of-the-mill arena card quality. Kerry Von Erich needed only 3:11 to pin Dino Bravo. Other matches included The Rockers vs. The Barbarian and Haku, Jake Roberts vs. Rick Martel, The Undertaker vs. Jimmy Snuka, and The Ultimate Warrior pinning Randy Savage in a retirement match. Neither wrestler retired.

The crowd, seemingly waiting for the main event, didn't get into the card until Hogan and Slaughter appeared. Once again, the people came to see the "Hulkster." They weren't disappointed with the outcome as the title changed hands for the fourth straight WrestleMania. Hogan, the belt restrapped around his waist, waved to the crowd and saluted the American flag. The crowd roared.

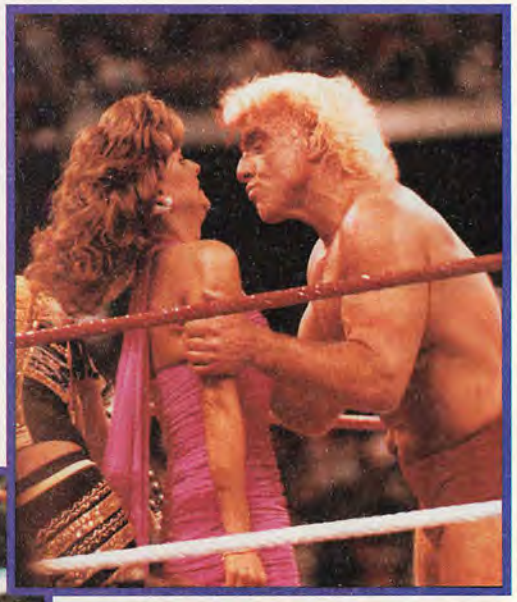
It was a special moment, provided once again by Hogan and WrestleMania.

WRESTLEMANIA VIII *was held April 5, 1992, at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis, Indiana ... The card was broadcast live at more than 100 closed-circuit locations in Canada and made available to more than 15-million pay-per-view households.*

Not since 1986 had the WrestleMania spotlight been spread between two main events. So excuse the more than 62,000 fans at WrestleMania VIII if they didn't know whether they were there to watch Ric Flair vs. Randy Savage in the WWF World title match or Sid Justice vs. Hulk Hogan.

They got even more than that. For months prior to WrestleMania VIII, Hogan hinted it might be his last appearance in the WWF. It wasn't, but the card did mark The Ultimate Warrior's shocking return to the federation. There was another surprise appearance: Manager Paul Ellering joined The Legion of Doom for the first time in the WWF.

Although, once again, none of the WrestleMania VIII matches made it into the voting for Match of the Year, the fans at the Hoosier Dome got what they paid for. Presumably, so did the people watching at home who paid as much as $49.95 for the pay-per-view telecast. That's a lot of popcorn!



Elizabeth made a surprise appearance, cheering Savage to a victory over Flair. Fans were shocked when the "Nature Boy" grabbed and kissed her; Elizabeth retaliated by slapping him away.

Two good friends, Roddy Piper and Bret Hart, wrestled for the I-C title at WrestleMania VIII. After the "Hitman" became the new champ, Piper proudly strapped the belt around his waist.

WrestleMania VIII was an important card for the WWF. Just weeks earlier, the federation was rocked by allegations of sexual misconduct and steroid abuse. Vince McMahon Jr. appeared on *Larry King Live* to answer the charges, but the stale air of controversy hung over the WWF as April 5 approached.

This was going to be a day to forget all of the outside distractions. Indeed, it was just that. It's hard to imagine that any of the fans—except those rooting for Flair and Justice—left the Hoosier Dome disappointed.

Even the undercard matches were special. Bret Hart won the Intercontinental title from Roddy Piper in an outstanding match between two friends. When it was over, Piper strapped

WRESTLING

the belt around the "Hitman's" waist. In the third title match on the card, Ted DiBiase and Irwin R. Schyster retained the World tag team title, despite losing by countout to The Natural Disasters.

But WrestleMania VIII will be remembered for the co-main events. It is a tribute to the quality of matches in 1992 that they weren't among the top four.

Bad feelings between Flair and Savage were intensified when Flair released a set of incriminating photos of himself with Elizabeth, Savage's wife at the time. A furious Savage charged out of the dressing room and attacked Flair before the bell rang, but Flair fought back. The crowd gasped when Elizabeth walked to ringside and cheered jubilantly when Savage pinned Flair. There was another moment of truth when Flair kissed Elizabeth, and yet another tumultuous cheer when she slapped him away.

There was more to come. Justice, enraged because he didn't get the World title shot at Flair, dominated the bout and beat up Hogan. The "Hulkster" ultimately won by disqualification, but was attacked by Justice, manager Harvey Wippleman, and Papa Shango. The crowd exulted when The Ultimate Warrior—absent for eight months—charged to the ring and helped Hogan.

Once again, WrestleMania ended with a Hogan celebration.

WRESTLEMANIA IX *was held April 4, 1993, at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada ... The card was viewed live by more than 16,000 fans in a makeshift outdoor stadium—dubbed "The Roman Coliseum" by WWF publicists—and by millions more on pay-per-view TV ... There were two PPV replays of the card.*

It has been said that WrestleMania is the most carefully planned event on the WWF calendar. Federation publicists and officials spend months before the big event picking a site, signing matches, deciding upon a theme, and making sure everything goes off without a hitch.

For its 1993 edition of WrestleMania, the WWF returned to a gambling town for the third time in six years and the first time since WrestleMania V in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Las Vegas, however, is a far glitzier town than Atlantic City, and the WWF knew it had the perfect backdrop for the card: sunshine, movie stars, camels, and beautiful women and men.

There were supposed to be nine matches on the card. As it turned out, there were 10.

The most shocking WrestleMania ever turned out to be the most controversial WrestleMania. Just when it looked as if WrestleMania would end on a sour note for the first time, the star of all WrestleManias came to the rescue. Hulk Hogan saved the day!

Hart courageously defended his World title against behemoth Yokozuna at WrestleMania IX; the sumo warrior, however, won the belt after Mr. Fuji tossed salt in his eyes.

Up until then, WrestleMania had been a dull, uninspiring affair, certainly not worthy of its setting. Prior to Hogan-Yokozuna, the highlight came in the first match of the day, when Luna Vachon charged out from the dressing room and clotheslined Sensational Sherri. The crowd's attention was easily diverted from Tatanka's DQ victory over Intercontinental champion Shawn Michaels.

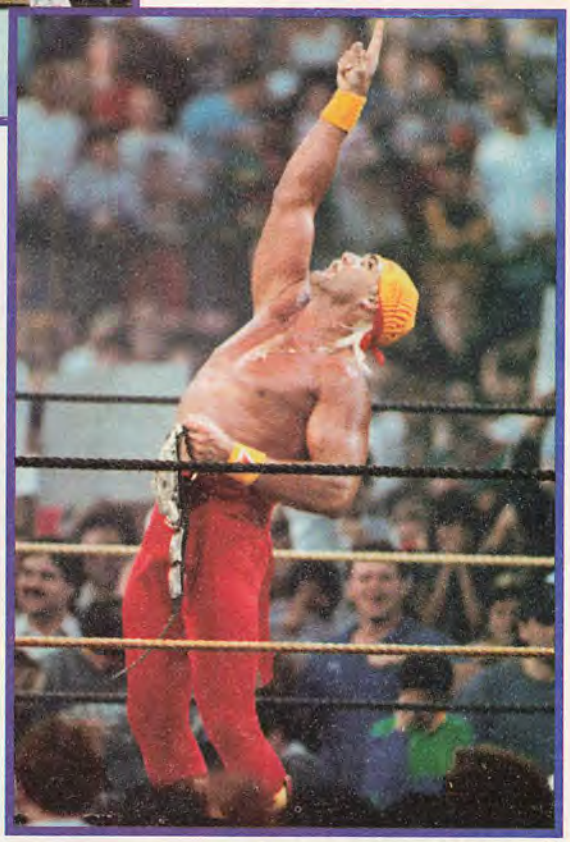
The rest of the matches were ho-hum. Rick and Scott Steiner beat The Headshrinkers. Two Doinks beat Crush. Former WWF World champion Bob Backlund was overwhelmed by Razor Ramon; that proved to be the end of Backlund's comeback.

Even the co-main event was a disappointment. Hogan and Brutus Beefcake—The Megamaniacs—had been feuding for months with World tag team champions Money Inc., but put forth a lackluster effort. Lex Luger generated some excitement when he pinned Curt Hennig.

So Bret Hart vs. Yokozuna figured to be the saver. The "Hitman" had been an exemplary World champion while Yokozuna's air of invincibility had worn off in the weeks prior to WrestleMania IX. Nobody counted on Mr. Fuji throwing salt in Hart's eyes, but that's what happened. Yokozuna pinned Hart to win the title and set off an incredible series of events.

Hogan ran out to argue with referee Dave Hebner. Fuji grabbed the ring microphone and issued an on-the-spot challenge to Hogan. Hogan, after some prodding from Hart, accepted the challenge. Fuji, who never left the ring, threw salt at Hogan's face. When Hogan ducked, the salt blinded Yokozuna. Hogan scored the pin and won his fifth World title. Yokozuna's reign lasted only 127 seconds.

And another Hogan WrestleMania victory celebration lasted well into the night. □

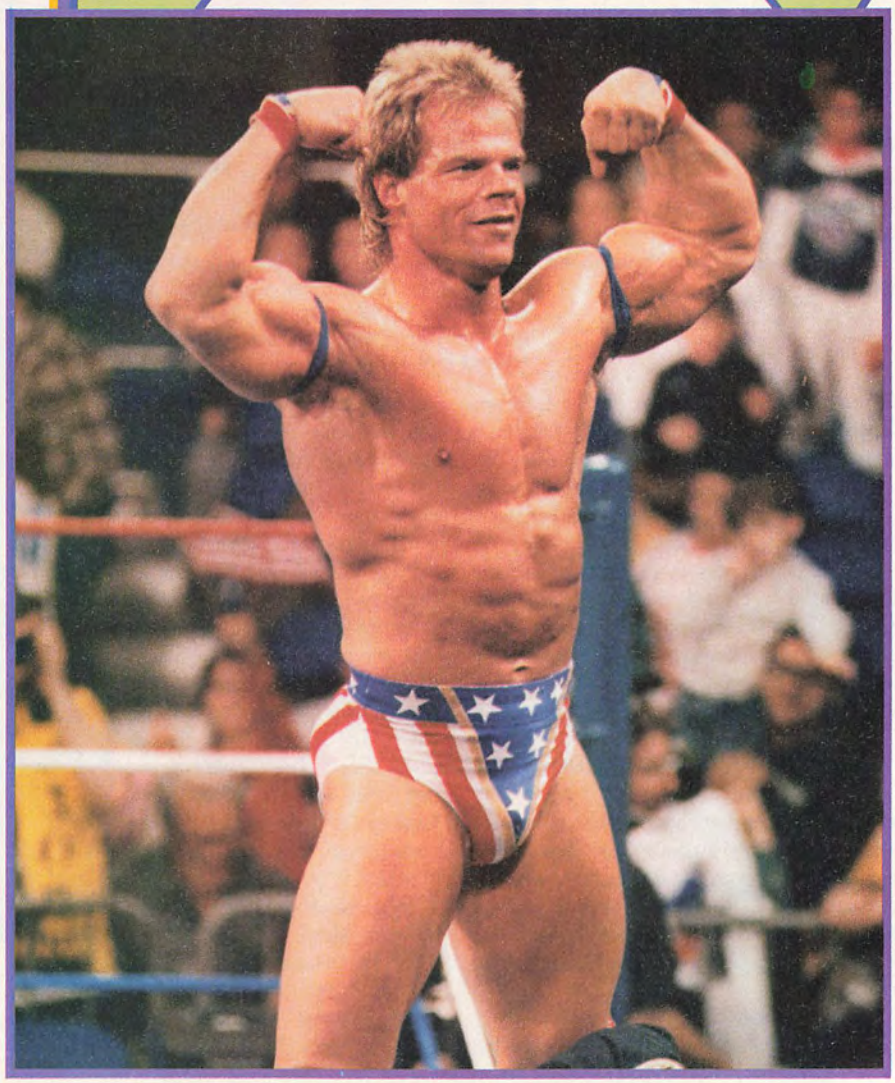


Hogan was only supposed to compete in a tag team match; by the end of the afternoon, he won his fifth World title after Fuji foolishly challenged him to face Yokozuna.

LUGER VS.

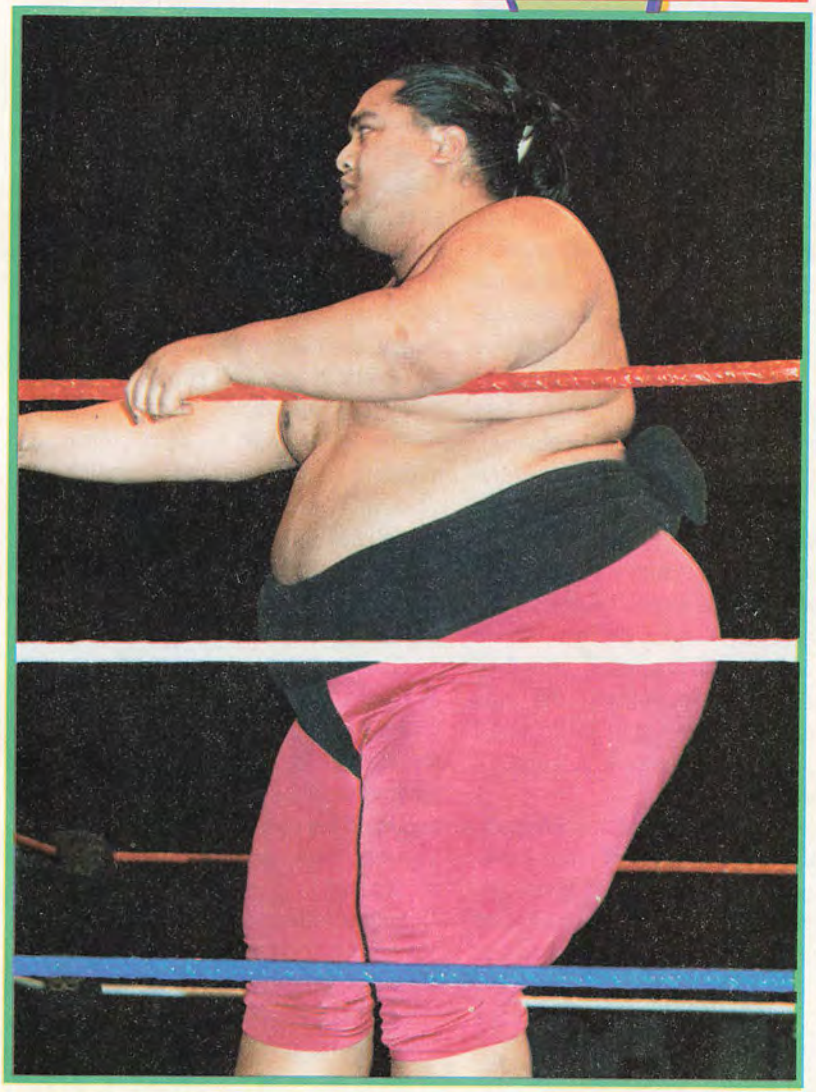
THE MATCH THAT WOULD MAKE

LEX LUGER'S VICTORY OVER YOKOZUNA AT SUMMERSLAM '93 WHETTED THE PUBLIC'S APPETITE FOR A REMATCH. THANKS TO POSTERING BY JIM CORNETTE AND HIS TEAM OF LAWYERS, THE REMATCH HASN'T HAPPENED. IF IT DOESN'T HAPPEN AT WRESTLEMANIA X, EVERYONE WILL BE THE LOSER



YOKOZUNA

WRESTLEMANIA X A 10!



By Dave Rosenbaum

LAWYERS ROT. SORRY, but there's no nicer way to put it. If not for lawyers, doctors' fees would be far less expensive. Drivers wouldn't shell out over a thousand dollars a year for auto insurance. Amusement parks wouldn't quake in fear of billion-dollar lawsuits.

Lex Luger would have had his rematch against Yokozuna a long time ago, and the WWF could have gone on with its life.

Thanks to Jim Cornette and his team of high-priced, highly educated Harvard lawyers, the Survivor Series didn't have the match everyone wanted. Neither did the Royal Rumble.

And unless the WWF comes up with a brilliant solution to a rather annoying problem, WrestleMania X won't satisfy the public's demands, either.

Blame it on the lawyers. They're the ones who got the injunction prohibiting the WWF from scheduling a Luger-Yokozuna rematch. If Luger hadn't uttered those three little words—"Just one match"—and if they hadn't been recorded on videotape, Yokozuna probably would have been history long ago.

But now the WWF is against a wall. Only one match can measure up to WrestleMania's nine-year history of spectacular main events. The fans don't have any use for Yokozuna vs. Anyone Else—or, God forbid, Yokozuna and Ludvig Borga vs. Luger and Tatanka for the umpteenth time—and even Owen Hart vs. Bret Hart wouldn't fill the bill.

▲ Luger has Yokozuna on rubbery legs during their SummerSlam encounter in August. At that point it appeared Lex would become the third man to have won world titles in both the NWA/WCW and the WWF.

▲ For Luger to get another shot at Yokozuna, the mighty Samoan would have had to turn back the stiff challenge of The Undertaker at the Royal Rumble.

▲ Luger turned a few heads by slamming Yokozuna on July 4, but he turned even more attitudes with his tireless "Lex Express" bus tour in the weeks before SummerSlam. One person who'll be rooting for him is Fran Ritter, an official at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia, one of Luger's stops.

◀ Despite his inability to secure another WWF World title match, Luger has been working harder than ever in the gym. If his chance comes, he'll be ready.

Luger vs. Yokozuna. That's it. Case closed. The one match that would make WrestleMania X great. The one match worthy of the big event's 10th anniversary blast.

Surely, there must be a judge out there who loves wrestling and doesn't mind overturning injunctions. Someone? Anyone? Your honor, be honorable.

Luger vs. Yokozuna I was intensely unsatisfying. When Luger bodyslammed (or semi-slammed) Yokozuna on the Fourth of July, everyone just assumed he'd have no trouble overcoming the overweight Samoan at SummerSlam '93. Those predictions were correct. Luger overwhelmed Yokozuna, but didn't win the belt. Yokozuna, doing his best beached whale imitation, lay prone on the arena floor and waited for the countout. Brilliant strategy. When it was over, Luger had the victory by DQ, but not the title. The crowd celebrated, but Luger knew he had blown his one and only chance. Cornette and Fuji smirked and celebrated, too. Their win was far more meaningful.

But why should that have been Luger's one chance? Just because he said the wrong thing? Heck, Luger was blustering. He's the "Narcissist," right? Well, narcissists are supposed to be overconfident and self-involved. They're supposed to spew stupidity. Never before in the history of modern sports has a chalkboard quote held up in a court of law.

To his credit, Luger wiggled his way into the Royal Rumble despite Cornette's protests. His lawyers found a beautiful loophole: Although the Royal Rumble winner was guaranteed the WrestleMania X title shot, there was no way Cornette and his lawyers could establish that Luger would win the Royal Rumble. In addition, they had no way of knowing Yokozuna would still be World champion at WrestleMania X.

"Cornette was left with no legal basis for protest," said a WWF insider. "They tried desperately, but he and his lawyers couldn't find a single precedent. Let's face it: What Cornette originally did was unprecedented. But things might heat up if Luger signs to wrestle Yokozuna at WrestleMania."

Here's the ironic catch: Although Cornette and Mr. Fuji don't want Yokozuna-Luger II, Yokozuna does. He is confident of his abilities and convinced he can beat Luger or at least lose again by DQ. According to rulebreakers dressing room sources, Yokozuna has pleaded with Fuji to let him wrestle Luger.

Most particularly, Yokozuna is afraid Hulk Hogan will return in time for WrestleMania X and get the World title match. Yokozuna has beaten Hogan once before, at the "King Of The Ring" pay-per-view, but the memory of WrestleMania IX is still fresh in his mind. Given the choice, Yokozuna would rather wrestle Luger than Hogan, the King of WrestleMania.

Cornette and Fuji would rather see Yokozuna-Tatanka.

The WWF could be at a crossroads decision. If Luger can't get a rematch with Yokozuna, he might be tempted to leave the federation and rejoin WCW. After all, what's the use of staying in the WWF if he can't have the World title? That's Luger's ultimate goal.

Of course, for Luger to get the chance at Yokozuna, he would have had to be fortunate enough to get a good starting position in the Royal Rumble and ultimately emerge victorious. Yokozuna would have had to do his part by successfully defending his title against the menacing Undertaker.

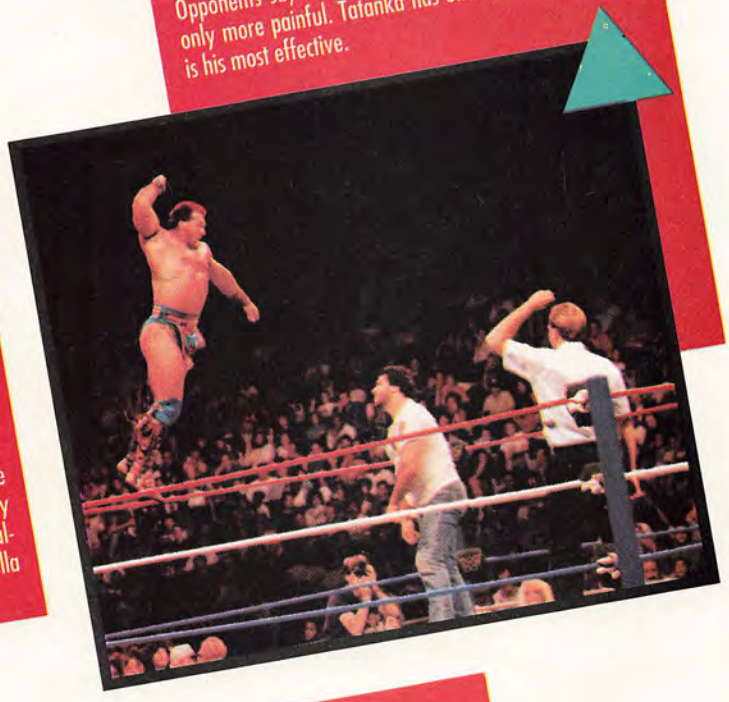
Luger-Undertaker might satisfy Lex, but there is only one match for WrestleMania X. Luger vs. Yokoznuna. It is WrestleMania's must match. The main event the world demands. □

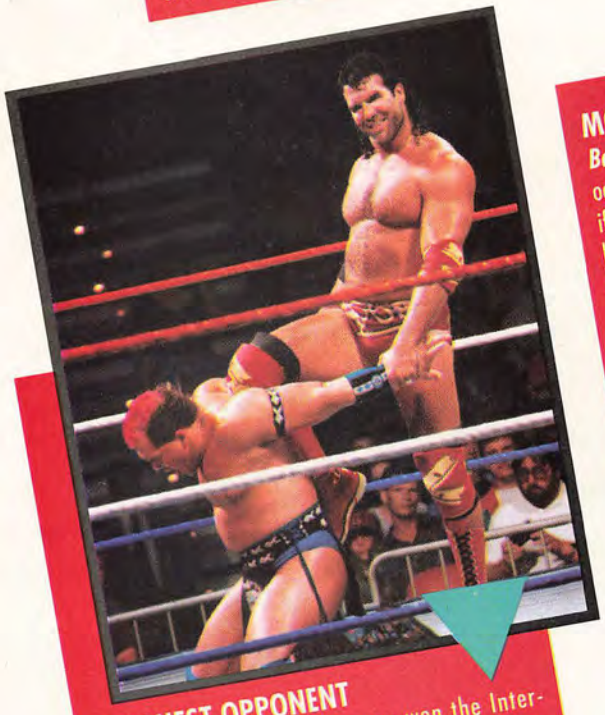
GREATEST MATCH

April 4, 1993, vs. Shawn Michaels. Tatanka earned the shot with several wins over the Intercontinental champion in non-title matches. He then showed everyone he was worthy of the opportunity. Tatanka continually bounced back from Michaels' attacks and won by disqualification when the "Boy Toy" pulled referee Joey Marella out of the ring.

FAVORITE MANEUVER

Flying tomahawk chop. Just what it sounds like. Usually executed from the top rope, Tatanka achieves great height and motion and then comes down hard onto his intended target with the arm fully extended. Opponents say it's like getting hit by a sack of bricks, only more painful. Tatanka has other weapons, but this is his most effective.



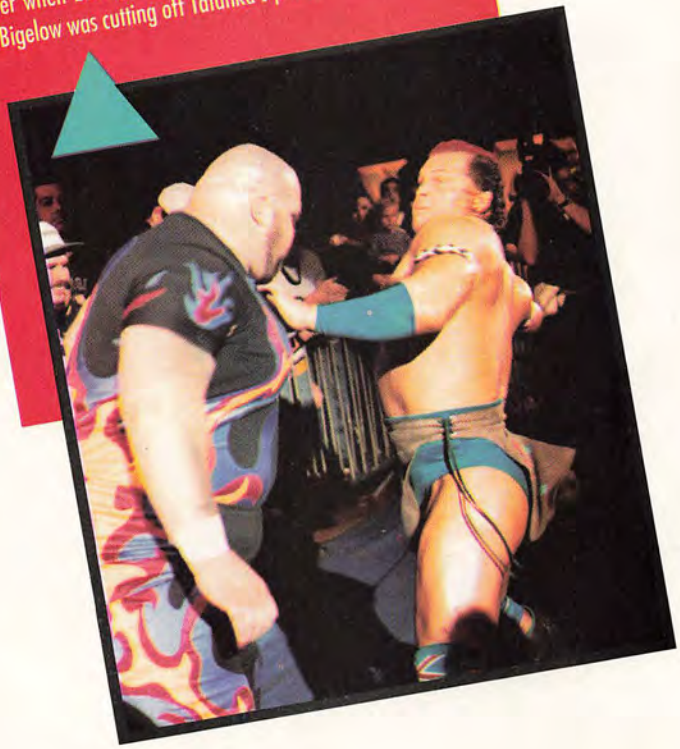


TOUGHEST OPPONENT

Razor Ramon. Before Ramon won the Intercontinental title, Tatanka wrestled him many times over a two-year period. Tatanka was usually the victor—often by pinfall—but Ramon posed the gravest threat to the Native American's flawless WWF record. Tatanka had a hard time countering Ramon's power.

MOST HATED OPPONENT

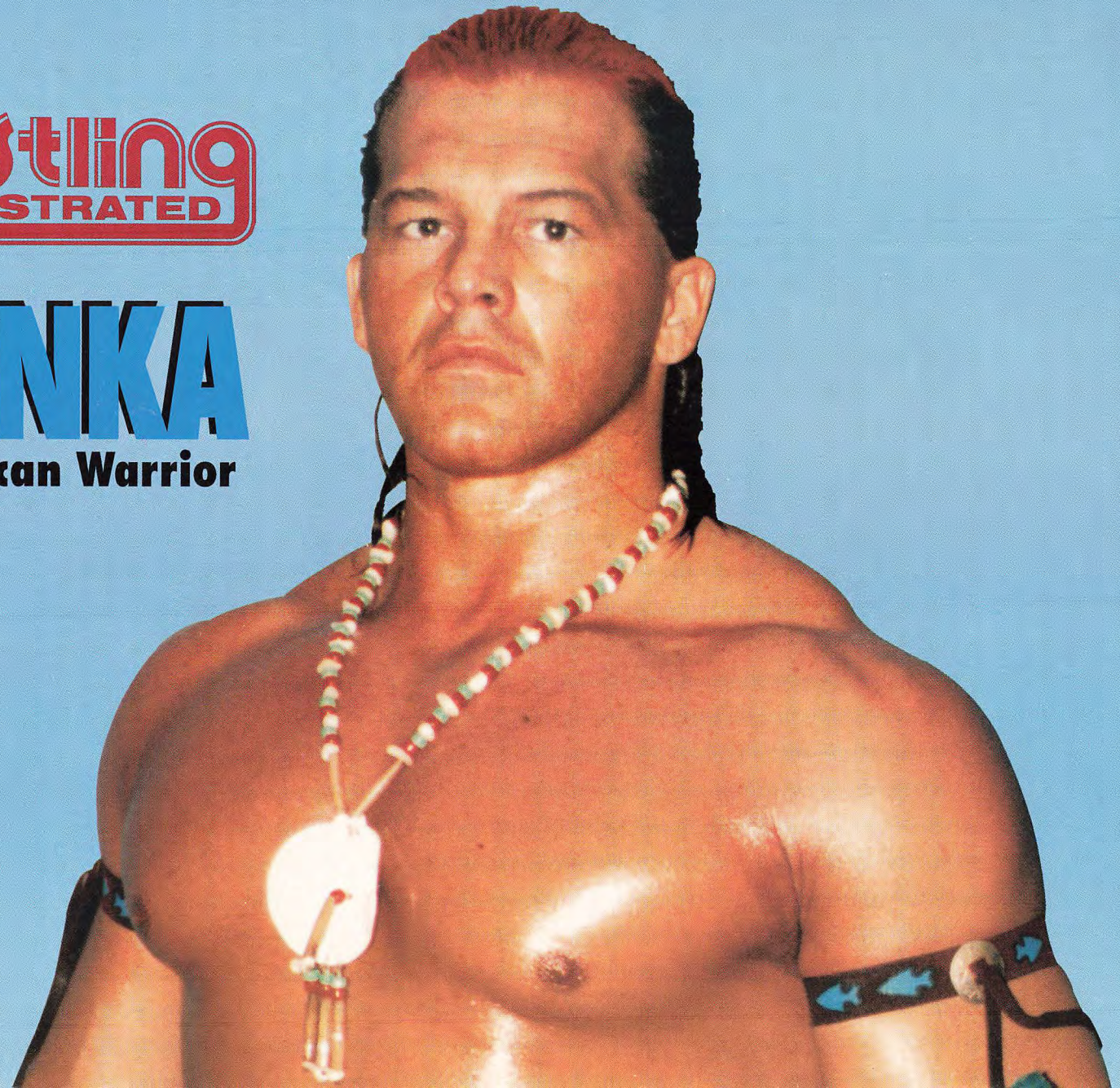
Bam Bam Bigelow. Bam Bam humiliated Tatanka on two occasions. Actually, Tatanka wouldn't have minded so much if Bigelow merely beat him with a chair. In fact, he felt a lot better when Ludvig Borga broke his ribs. The ultimate insult by Bigelow was cutting off Tatanka's prized locks of red hair.



Pro Wrestling Illustrated

TATANKA

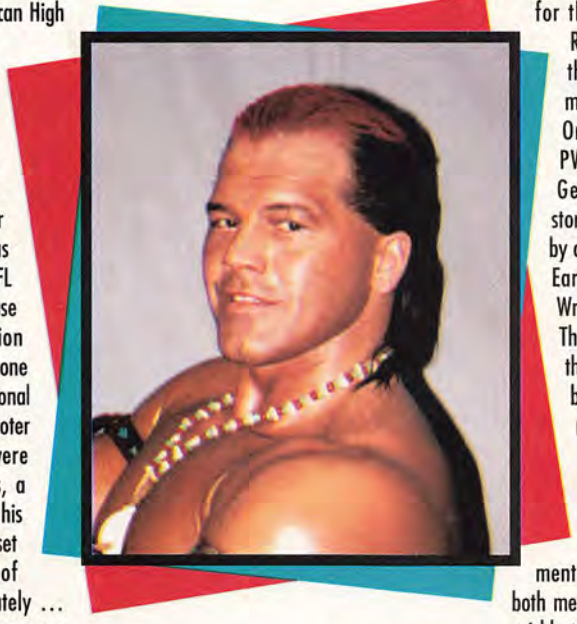
Native American Warrior



close-up:

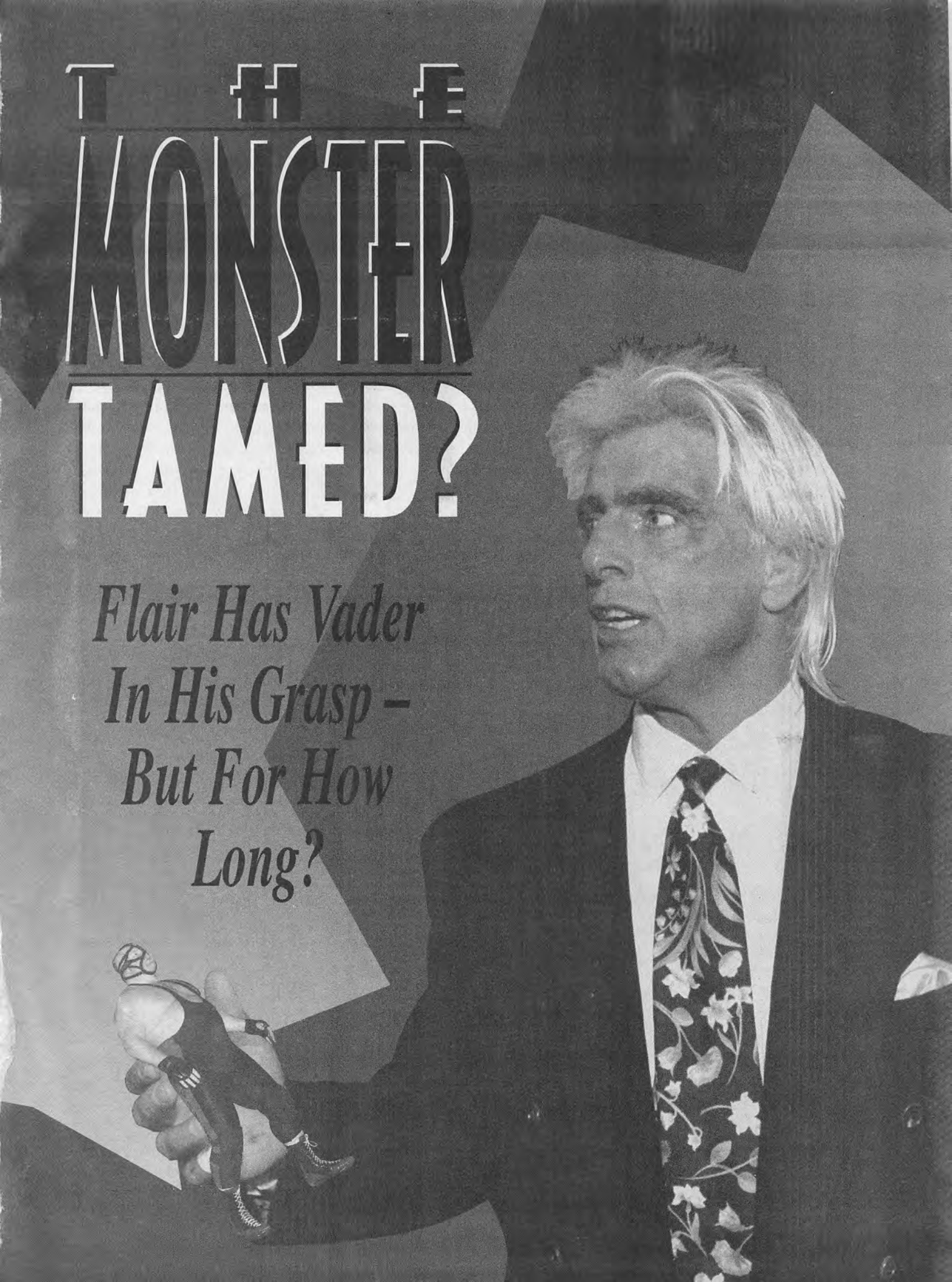
TATANKA

IN THE GREAT tradition of Chief Jay Strongbow and Wahoo McDaniel, Tatanka is the latest Native American star to achieve enormous popularity and great success in the squared circle ... The 6'1", 260-pounder, born Chris Chavis, grew up in Lumberton, North Carolina, in the heart of Pembroke Indian country, and moved to Virginia as a teenager ... Was a fabulously gifted student-athlete, equally adept at both studies and sports ... Wrestling was a passion ... Grew up watching Ric Flair on TV and was amazed by tapes of all-time great Buddy Rogers ... His dream was to one day meet them ... But he didn't have time for daydreams, not with his versatile athletic career ... Was voted Most Valuable Lineman on Bethel High School's AAA state champion football team, won the shot put and discus titles in track and field, and also wrestled on the state championship team ... While he was there, Bethel High was voted as having the best athletic program in Virginia ... In the classroom, he was voted best student by his classmates and was a 1976 Who's Who in American High School Students ... Participated in his school's ROTC program ... Earned a $100,000 scholarship to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, but chose to stay in-state and attend James Madison University because of its fine academic and athletic programs ... Moved to Florida after graduating from JMU ... In 1987, he was called to play for the Dolphins during the NFL players' strike ... Refused the offer because he was making so much money as division manager for a health club in Florida ... But one sport had an irresistible pull on him: professional wrestling ... In 1989, he met Florida promoter Tom Michaels in a video store ... Both were looking for wrestling tapes ... Michaels, a friend of Buddy Rogers, was impressed by his demeanor and outstanding physique ... He set up a meeting with Rogers ... The Hall of Famer and the prospect hit it off immediately ... Rogers had Chavis call Larry Sharpe, who ran a wrestling school in southern New Jersey ... Trained with Sharpe in late-1989 and early-1990 ... Made his debut on January 13, 1990, beating Joe Thunderstorm on a WWA card in Woodbury, New Jersey ... Lost to Matt Borne in the first round of the NAWA heavyweight title tournament on June 30, 1990, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina ... Got several shots at NAWA champion Robert Fuller ... Finshed third runner-up in the 1990 *PWI* poll for Rookie of the Year ... Was briefly NAWA champion in 1991, but lost the title to Manny Fernandez on August 31 ... Fernandez was suspended for using a foreign object to cut off Chavis' hair, yet was allowed to keep the title ... Made his WWF debut in late-1991 as Chris Chavis ... Beat Kato and Skinner in early matches ... Took on the name Tatanka soon afterward as a tribute to his Native American heritage ... WWF fans quickly took to the newcomer because of his exciting war dance and thrilling Samoan drop finishing maneuver ... Scored his first significant WWF victory on February 18, 1992, beating Warlord ... Pinned Skinner with a totem pole suplex on March 7 and made his debut in *PWI's* WWF ratings at number 10 ... Wrestled veteran Rick Martel at WrestleMania VIII in Indianapolis ... Scored the biggest victory of his career to that point by pinning Martel with a spectacular flying cross-body-block ... Piled up win after win over mid-card competition ... Won a 40-man battle royal at a WWF TV taping on May 18 in Cincinnati ... Although Tatanka had compiled a perfect won-lost record in the WWF, experts considered his SummerSlam '92 match against Berzerker to be his first serious test ... Tatanka passed it by using a back suplex to set up the 6'6", 316-pound Berzerker for the pin ... Finished off his feud with Martel by pinning "The Model" at Survivor Series '92 ... Aided Bob Backlund, who was attacked by Damien Demento and Irwin R. Schyster at the 1993 Royal Rumble ... Tatanka was eliminated by Yokozuna, the eventual winner, in the Rumble ... Feuded with Demento, at one point pinning the crazed rulebreaker on three straight nights, and also pinned Intercontinental champion Shawn Michaels in a non-title and six-man match ... Substituted for the injured Curt Hennig and pinned Razor Ramon ... After over a year in the WWF, Tatanka was finally scoring major victories over top opponents ... On March 7, 1993, Tatanka defeated PWF junior heavyweight champion George South ... Shawn Michaels stormed the ring and Tatanka responded by chopping Michaels over the top rope ... Earned a title shot against Michaels at WrestleMania IX in Las Vegas, Nevada ... The match turned out to be the best on the card ... Michaels was accompanied by Luna Vachon; Tatanka was accompanied by Sensational Sherri Martel ... Tatanka won by disqualification, but Michaels kept the belt ... Battled Lex Luger to a 15-minute draw in Round 1 of the "King Of The Ring" tournament on June 13, 1993, thus eliminating both men ... His feud with Bam Bam Bigelow quickly turned hot and ugly ... Twice, Bigelow attacked Tatanka after a match, clobbered him with a chair, and cut off several locks of his prized red hair ... Tatanka was angry beyond comprehension ... Teamed with The Smokin' Gunns to beat Bigelow and The Headshrinkers at SummerSlam '93 ... Traveled to Memphis and beat Jerry Lawler for the USWA heavyweight title on September 13 ... Tatanka attacked Lawler and was booed by the fans in Mid-South Coliseum ... Lost the belt to Lawler one week later in a Survivor Series-type match ... Tatanka's belt was up for grabs only against Lawler ... Suffered his first WWF defeat—not his first career loss, as federation broadcasters suggested—against Ludvig Borga on September 28 in Worcester, Massachusetts ... Borga smashed Tatanka's ribs, used a chair on him outside the ring, and then rolled him back in for the pin ... Afterward, Yokozuna delivered two "banzai" splashes on Tatanka ... Lex Luger came to Tatanka's rescue ... Tatanka suffered serious rib injuries and couldn't wrestle at the Survivor Series ... Beat Borga by DQ at *WWF Monday Night Raw* ... Luger and Tatanka have joined forces against Yokozuna and Borga ... Working his way into serious contention for a major title. □



THE MONSTER TAMED?

Flair Has Vader In His Grasp – But For How Long?



WCW World champion Ric Flair knows that in granting a rematch to the powerful Big Van Vader, he risks more than his title. But he also knows that beating him again could accomplish the impossible: It might turn the 450-pound Vader into just another wrestler!

By Chris Bernucca

BEATING BIG VAN Vader, the most dominant force in wrestling, is something that even Ric Flair has to sit back and admire, particularly considering the win came under extreme circumstances. However, if Flair sits back for too long, he may find his shoulders pinned to the mat.

Flair's stunning victory over Vader at Starrcade '93 is now a part of history. The "Nature Boy" silenced the skeptics by winning a handicap match against both Father Time and 450 pounds of mean. But by doing so, he immediately raised another question.

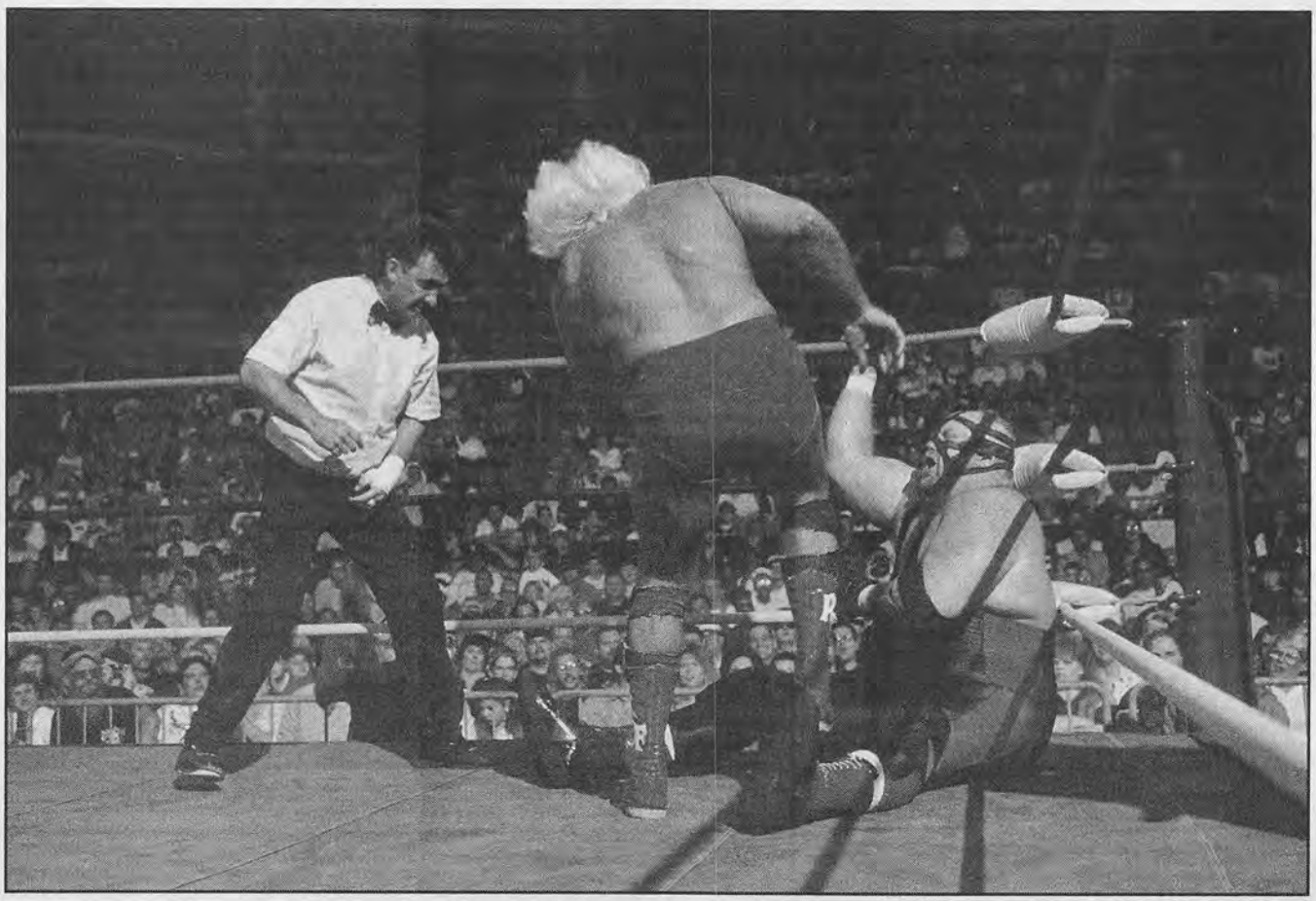
Can he do it again?

It won't take long to find out. Flair is scheduled to defend the title against Vader at SuperBrawl IV in late-February. That match should provide answers to all the questions regarding Flair, as well as several pertaining to Vader.

"Can't I enjoy this one first?" laughed Flair in a recent telephone interview. "I guess my honeymoon with the press is over. I have to be honest with you. The rematch is nearly two months away and I really haven't thought about it that much, other than taking care of myself between now and then and making sure I go into the match without any aches and pains."

While Flair isn't putting much mental energy into his rematch with Vader, the challenger seems to be doing quite the opposite. *Consumed* is usually a word that describes Vader's eating habits, but now it also applies to his approach to Flair.

"We're already breaking down



Considering the weight and strength differences between Ric Flair and Big Van Vader, it's remarkable that the "Nature Boy" is able to maintain such an advantage over the big man. But for how long?

A vertical suplex is a crushing maneuver in an average-sized wrestler's repertoire; in Vader's beefy hands, the move is enough to rattle Flair's bones for days!

tapes and beginning physical training," said Harley Race, Vader's manager. "We'll step it up as we get closer to the match. Vader will show the wrestling world what it should already know—that what happened at Starrcade was a fluke."

Was Flair's victory a fluke? Most observers seem to think so.

"Flair's win was like Villanova beating Georgetown in the NCAA championship back in 1985," said WCW expert Donald Wayne. "If they played 10 times, Georgetown would probably win eight or nine of them. But Villanova won when it counted, and that's all that matters. And that's Flair's biggest asset: winning when it counts."

Flair does have the advantages that come with being champion, such as being able to retain the title via countout or disqualification. Those options could come in handy for a wily veteran like the "Nature Boy," whose championship history has shown that he is not afraid to cut his losses to hold on to the belt.

"If Vader went to a foreign object or if Race interfered again, and the ref ruled a DQ victory for me, I could accept that, because it wasn't brought on by me," said Flair. "But I won't resort to that to keep the title. People think I got lucky against Vader, and pinning him again would shut those people up."

Although men like Rick Rude and Steve Austin, and even Sting and Rick Steamboat, are clamoring for a shot at Flair on a major card, they will have to wait their turn.

However, Flair has to be aware of Vader's last title loss; it came to Sting in London on March 11, 1993. Six days later, Vader destroyed Sting in a rematch in Dublin, Ireland, and returned to the U.S. with the championship belt. Until losing to Flair, those were the only six days of 1993 that Vader did not have the title.

Vader is big, but he's also agile, a factor that makes him that much more of a danger to the "Nature Boy."

Flair has been around long enough to know the old adage that defending a title is tougher than winning one. Still, he has lost his share of championships, as has any multi-champion wrestler. In the

past, cockiness has cost Flair in the ring, and his psychological approach to the rematch will be closely scrutinized.

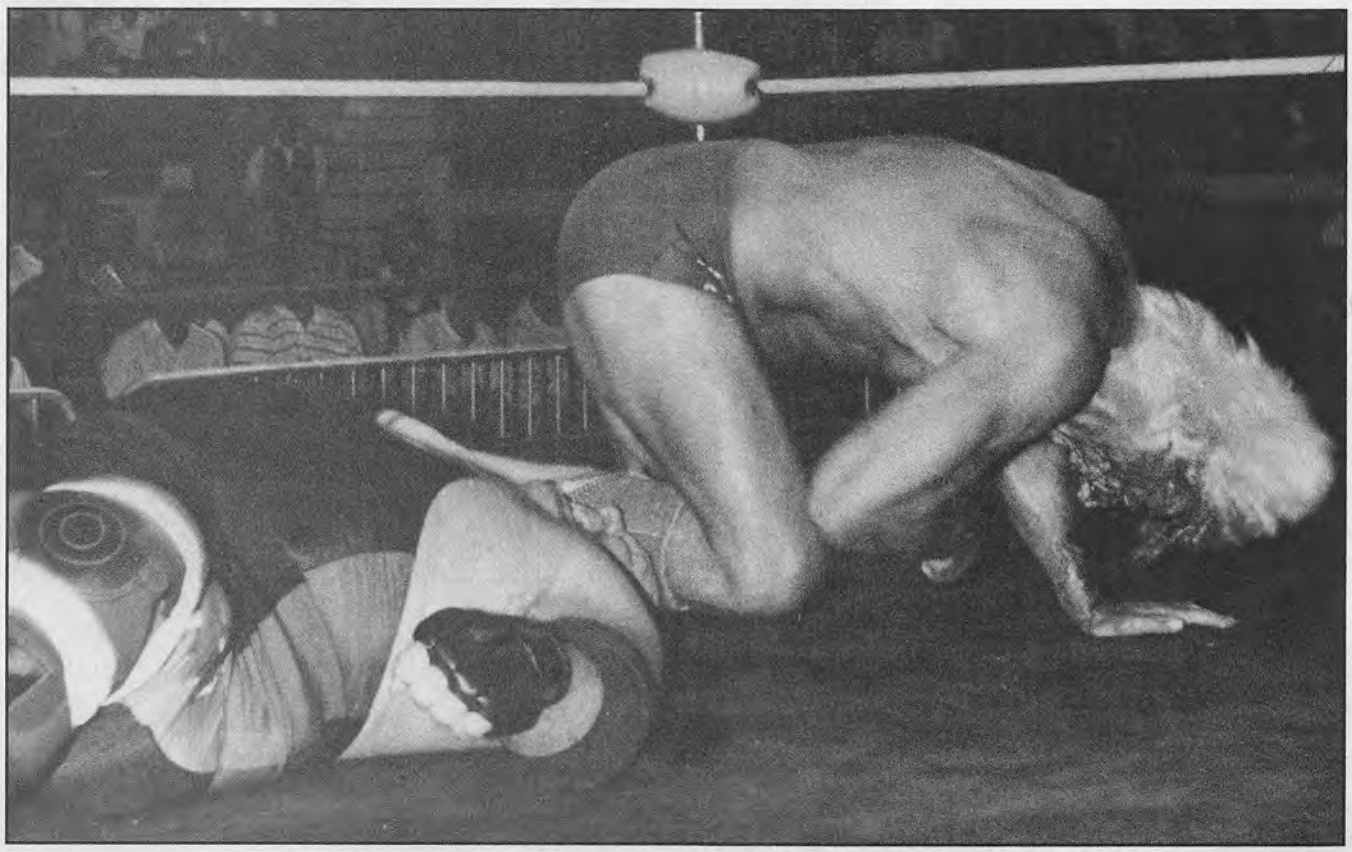
"Ric Flair doesn't need me to tell him this," offered Sting. "But the worst thing he can do against Vader is walk into that ring overconfident or cocky. He has to remember how hard it was to win the belt and work that hard to keep it."

Flair has noticeably toned down his act since his WWF days, when he was goading Randy Savage with unfounded rumors of a tryst between himself and Elizabeth, Savage's wife at the time. Keeping his ego in check would certainly increase his chances for victory against Vader, who is also prone to letting his emotions get the best of him.

Despite Flair's victory at Starrcade, Vader remains the most destructive force in the federation. Looking at the two men after the match, you would have to think the actual result was different. Vader appeared tired and frustrated, but that was all. Flair was a beaten and bloody mess who seemed happy to leave the ring with his life, let alone the championship belt.

However, a second loss to Flair would be emotionally devastating to Vader. It would simultaneously prove that Flair's first win was no fluke while planting serious doubts about the challenger's abilities. With his size and strength advantage, Vader had no excuse for losing the first bout. Another defeat would diminish his aura and make him just another wrestler in a federation filled with championship-caliber grapplers.

You can bet that Flair, the master of ring psychology, is aware of this possibility. He knows that if he can muster up the resources to again beat Vader, he will never have to wrestle him again. He will have tamed the monster. □



Bloodied, beaten, and battered, Flair is still not willing to give up. But his determination could ultimately cost him his physical health—and his title.

THE CONCERT EVENT & FAN CLUB

ULTIMATE HOTLINE

CALL NOW FOR ...

- **Your Favorite Group's Touring Schedule!**
- **The Latest Inside News and Updates On Them!**
- **Addresses Where You Can Write!**
- **The Best Seats In The House To Every Show!**
- **Concert Listings for YOUR Hometown!**

FREE! Bonus Pak and Killer Concert Photo with every call !!

1-900-454-7700 EXT 99

$2.99/min. Under 18 Get Parents' Permission.

Have Code # READY

Rotary or Touchtone Phones 24 Hrs. Updated Weekly

CODE	ARTIST
8361	10,000 Maniacs
2542	2 Live Crew
2231	AC / DC
2321	Bryan Adams
2371	Aerosmith
2522	Al B. Sure!
2541	Alice in Chains
2681	Anthrax
2527	B-52's
2322	Beastie Boys
2323	The Beatles
2381	Beverly Hills 90210
1431	Ian Ziering
3641	Shannen Doherty
4273	Jennie Garth
4732	Brian Austin Green
7741	Jason Priestly
7371	Luke Perry
2523	Black Crowes
2524	Black Sabbath
2528	Clint Black
2543	Mary J. Blige
2651	Michael Bolton
2662	Bonham
2764	Garth Brooks
2271	Mariah Carey
2525	Eric Clapton
2653	Phil Collins
2871	The Cure
2972	Billy Ray Cyrus
2661	Bon Jovi
2692	Boyz II Men
2691	David Bowie
2262	C & C Music Factory
2761	Crosby, Stills & Nash
3251	Da Lench Mob
3265	Damian Dame
3261	Damn Yankees
3262	Danger Danger
3331	Def Leppard
3353	Del Amitri
3472	Dire Straits
3211	Eazy E
3682	En Vogue
3761	EPMD
3781	Gloria Estefan
3981	Extreme
3272	Faster Pussycat
3471	Firehouse
4221	Peter Gabriel
4362	Genesis
4381	Geto Boyz
4721	Grateful Dead
4861	Guns N Roses
4261	Hammer
4274	Hardline
4682	House of Pain
4681	Whitney Houston
4231	Ice Cube
4232	Ice-T
4611	INXS
5222	Janet Jackson
5221	Michael Jackson
5631	Jodeci
5632	Billy Joel
5641	Elton John
5832	Wynonna Judd
5472	KISS
5741	Kris Kross
6771	KRS-One
5332	Led Zeppelin
5962	Lynch Mob
6231	Madonna
6252	Mitch Malloy
6271	Marky Mark & the Funky Bunch
6241	Megadeth
6382	Metallica
6422	George Michael
6682	Motley Crue
6721	Mr. Big
6352	Nelson
6461	Nine Inch Nails
6471	Nirvana
6262	Sinead O'Connor
6723	Ozzy Osbourne
7263	Pantera
7321	Pearl Jam
7381	Tom Petty
9454	Wilson Phillips
7462	Pink Floyd
7641	Poison
7742	Prince
7743	Prince Markie Dee
1832	Queensryche
7265	The Ramones
7333	Redman
7363	R.E.M.
7332	R.H. Chili Peppers
7651	Rolling Stones
7871	Rush
7251	Salt N Pepa
7541	Skid Row
7523	Slaughter
7643	The Smithereens
7682	Soundgarden
7683	Soup Dragons
7746	Spin Doctors
7771	Bruce Springsteen
7842	Sting
7931	Mathew Sweet
8371	Tesla
8431	They Might Be Giants
8521	TLC
8721	Randy Travis
8221	U2
8451	Ugly Kid Joe
8262	Van Halen
8341	Suzanne Vega
9463	The Who
9452	Vanessa Williams
9682	Neil Young
1181	ZZ Top

PLUS ...OVER 250 MORE! (If the Band you're looking for is not listed here, just press or say the numbers on your phone that contain the first three letters of the band, or artist's last name (i.e. GUNs n Roses = 486, Gloria ESTefan = 378).

© 1993 Concert Connection, Ltd. • 1650 Limekiln Pike • Suite 400 • Dresher, PA 19025

arena reports

The results in "Arena Reports" are culled from a month's worth of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Weekly* newsletters. Readers of *PWI Weekly* received these results just days after the cards took place. If you would like to subscribe to *PWI Weekly*, see the ad elsewhere in this issue. If you would like to join professional wrestling's largest network of correspondents, write to: "Arena Report" c/o *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, Box 956, Ft. Washington, PA 19034.

UNITED STATES

FLORIDA

TAMPA—WWF at the University of South Florida Sundome: **Owen Hart** defeated **Bastion Booger** ... **Irwin R. Schyster** beat **Marty Jannetty** ... **Bret Hart** defeated **Jeff Jarrett** ... In a best-of-three-falls, falls-count-anywhere match, **Crush** defeated **Randy Savage**, winning the third fall by countout; Savage won the first fall, Crush the second ... In a "coward-waves-the-flag" match, **Lex Luger** (with **Tatanka**) beat **Ludvig Borga** (with **Crush**) ... **The Headshrinkers** beat **The Smokin' Gunns** ... **Tatanka** defeated World champion **Yokozuna** by disqualification.
(01-07-94)

—Shannon Rose

TAMPA—PWF: **Frankie Rose** defeated **The Mechanic** ... **Manny Fernandez** (not the original) beat **Panama Jack** ... **Molly McShane** and **Allison Royal** battled to a double-disqualification ... **Ned Brady** defeated **Randy Fuller** ... **Freight Train Freddy** beat **Cuban Assassin** by disqualification ... **Lou Perez** & **Rico Federico** defeated **Rick Thames** & **Sonny T** by disqualification.
(01-04-94)

—Shannon Rose

DADE CITY—Anvil Promotions at Dan Cannon Auditorium: **Odessa Slim** beat **Cliff Anderson** ... **The Blackhearts** defeated **Lou Perez** & **Enrico Morales** ... **Al "Wild Thing" Hardaman** beat **"The Genius" Lanny Poffo** ... **B. Brian Blair** defeated **The Cuban Assassin** in a flag match ... **Jim Neidhart** battled **Davey Boy Smith** to a no-contest after **The Warlord** interfered on Neidhart's behalf. Neidhart and Smith combined to run Warlord out of the ring.
(12-29-93)

—Shannon Rose

ORLANDO—Central Florida Wrestling at Front Line Outreach Center Gymnasium: **Jam Master G** defeated **Dirty Dave** ... **Jumpin' Jack Flash** (managed by **Randy Hogan**) beat **The Ox** (managed by **The Illustrious One**) ... **The Super Ref** defeated **The Ninja** ... Southeastern tag team champions **The Mercenaries** beat **Pat Tanaka** & **Tyree Pride** ... **Bubba Bond** defeated **Executioner I** by disqualification after **Executioner II** and **The Illustrious One** interfered ... **Kevin Sullivan** (managed by **The Illustrious One**) and **Hercules Hernandez** wrestled to a double-disqualification ... **Death Row** beat **Tony Lash** ... In a no-countout, no-disqualification match, **The Rockin' Hillbilly** defeated **Rick Ryder.**
(12-17-93)

—Shannon Rose

TAMPA—World Wrestling Alliance at the Sportatorium: **Butch Long** and **The Mechanic** wrestled to a draw ... **The Stinger** defeated **The Hit Man** ... **Keith Houston** and **The White Shadow** battled to a no-contest ... **Freight Train Freddie** beat **The Cuban Assassin** by countout ... **Chris Nelson** defeated **The Gravedigger** ... **Jammin' Johnny** and **The Zebra Kid** wrestled to a no-contest ... **The Armed Forces** beat **The Southern Posse** ... **Randy Fuller** defeated **Nasty Ned** ... **"Magnificent" Bill Pain** beat **Ace Steel.**
(12-17-93)

—Shannon Rose

PLANT CITY—Plant City Wrestling Federation TV taping at the Auction: **Rico** defeated **Luscious Luke** by disqualification ... **The Red Devil** beat **Randy Hogan** by disqualification ... **K.C. Carr** and **Molly McShane** battled to a double-countout ... **Nuclear Assassin I** & **Hassan Farouk** defeated **Kevin "The Wizard" Caplan** & **Big Bill Tyree** ... **Raoul Mada** beat **Cuban Assassin** by disqualification ... With **Luscious Luke** handcuffed to a security guard at ringside, **Randy Fuller** defeated **Sensuous Lee** by disqualification ... In a taped-fist match, **Jerry "Lightning" McFlynn** & **"Nasty" Ned Brady** beat **Rocky Johnson** & **Outlaw Cody Wade.**
(12-16-93)

—Shannon Rose

HUDSON—Hudson Sports Club Wrestling at Hudson Flea Market: **Rick Rider** defeated **"Magnificent" Bill Pain** ... **Kenny Kendall** beat **Jerry Lightning** by reverse decision ... **Bob Cook** and **Lou Perez** battled to a no-contest ... **Rick Rider** & **Freight Train Freddy** wrestled **The Southern Posse** to a 30-minute draw ... **"Nasty" Ned Brady** and **Rocky Johnson** battled to a double-disqualification.
(12-11-93)

—Shannon Rose

TAMPA—Independent card at The Church of the Lost and Found: **The Aussie Kid** pinned **Manny Fernandez** ... **Terry Pott Jr.** pinned **The Black Panther** ... **Jammin' Johnny** defeated **Sandy Beach** by disqualification ... **The Firecat** beat **Jumbo Barretta.**
(12-10-93)

—Shannon Rose

GEORGIA

CORDELE—Peach State Wrestling: **Rodney Cowan** beat **Dale Lucas** ... **Rick Morton** defeated **Paul Golden** by disqualification ... **Steve** & **Scott Armstrong** beat **Glen Gilbernetti** & **The Nightmare** ... **Robert Gibson** & **Ted Oates** defeated **R.D. Swain** & **Scott Armstrong** ... In a coal miner's glove match, **Tommy Rich** beat **Mike Golden** ... In a loser-leaves-town match, **Dennis Gale** defeated **Steve Lawler.**
(12-26-93)

—Wayne Perry

FORT OGLETHORPE—Tri-State Wrestling at the Battlefield Flea Mall: **Outlaw I** pinned **Woody Woodchuck** ... **Sam Colt** & **Rick Justice** defeated **Tracy Black** & **Gene Spurlock** ... **The Widowmaker** & **Jamie Strong** beat **Frankie Lee** & **Joey Travis** ... **Larry Santana** pinned **Rawhead Rex** ... **Dallas** & **Randy Steele** defeated tag team champions **Kenny Arden** & **Billy Montana** to win the belts.
(12-22-93)

—Bill Needham

ILLINOIS

ROSEMONT—WWF at the Horizon: **Owen Hart** defeated **Bastion Booger** ... In a best-of-three, falls-count-anywhere match, **Crush** beat **Randy Savage**, who was attacked outside the ring by **Ludvig Borga** before the third fall and couldn't answer the bell. Savage had won the first fall, Crush the second ... **The Smokin' Gunns** defeated **The Headshrinkers** ... **Lex Luger** beat **Ludvig Borga**, but was attacked by **Crush** after the match. **Randy Savage** rescued him ... **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** defeated World tag team champions **The Quebecers** by disqualification ... **Bam Bam Bigelow** beat **Doink** ... In a steel cage match, **Bret Hart** defeated **Shawn Michaels.**
(12-28-93)

—Shawn Tresselt

BERWYN—Windy City Wrestling: **Steve Boz** defeated **Trevor Blanchard** ... **Christopher Daniels** beat **"Iron" Mike Samson** by disqualification ... **Mike Anthony** defeated **Ken Ericson** (managed by **Brett Sanders**) ... In a 10-man elimination match, the team of **Twin Turbos, Mike Anthony, "Dice Man" Ronnie Vegas,** & **Haystacks Ross** beat **Hawkeye Smith, The Manson Brothers, Danny Dominion,** & **Super Maxx** (managed by **Joey Baggs**) when Anthony pinned **Ripper Manson.**
(12-17-93)

—Steve Cain

MARYLAND

LANDOVER—WWF at USAir Arena: **Men on a**

Mission defeated **The Headshrinkers** by disqualification ... **Marty Jannetty** pinned **Rick Martel** ... **Doink the Clown** pinned **Bam Bam Bigelow** ... In a best-of-three-falls match, **Crush** defeated **Randy Savage** when Savage was counted out on the third fall ... In a ladder match, Intercontinental champion **Razor Ramon** defeated **Shawn Michaels** ... **Lex Luger** & **Tatanka** defeated **Yokozuna** & **Ludvig Borga** when Luger pinned Borga.
(01-09-94)

—Sam Fox & Ben Kohnen

MICHIGAN

TAYLOR—Midwest Territorial Wrestling: **Sean Casey** beat **Shinobi** ... **Scott Summers** defeated **Scott D'Amore** ... **Johnny Paradise** beat **Andy Fish** ... **The Kangaroos** defeated **Mike Kelley** & **Mickey Doyle** ... **Scott Stevens** beat **Ron Cumberledge** ... **Johnny K-9** defeated **Bobo Brazil Jr.** ... **Chris Carter** & **Muhammad Saad** beat **Canadian Lightning.**
(01-08-94)

—Ernie Avery

NEW JERSEY

ELIZABETH—WWF at the Dunn Center: **The Kid** defeated **Johnny Polo** ... **Doink the Clown** beat **Bam Bam Bigelow** ... Intercontinental champion **Razor Ramon** defeated **Shawn Michaels** ... **Bob Backlund** beat **Mike Sharpe** ... **Men on a Mission** defeated World tag team champions **The Quebecers** by disqualification ... In a casket match, **The Undertaker** beat **Adam Bomb.**
(01-07-94)

—Candy Meyers

BRICKTOWN—Garden State Wrestling Alliance at Mike Sharpe's School of Pro Wrestling: **The Juggernaut** won a six-man elimination match pitting **The Dream Team** & **Mr. Lucifer** versus Juggernaut, **Steve Richards,** & **Inferno Kid** ... **"Mr. Motion" Mike Paris** pinned light heavyweight champion **Ace Darling** to win the title ... In an anything-goes bunkhouse match, **Billy the Kid** defeated **Mark Melaccio** ... In a tar-and-feather match, **Ghetto Blaster** beat **The Skinhead** ... In a prince-of-darkness blindfold match, **Bobby Piper** defeated **Rick Ratchet** ... Heavyweight champion **Super Nova** beat **The Nomad** ... **Rolling Thunder** defeated tag team champions **Helter Skelter** to win the belts.
(12-18-93)

—Stewart Winchester

EAST RUTHERFORD—WWF at the Brendan Byrne Arena: **Randy Savage** fought to a double-countout with **Crush** ... **The Headshrinkers** beat **Men on a Mission** when **Fatu** pinned **Mo** ... **Razor Ramon** & **The Kid** beat **Adam Bomb** & **Johnny Polo** when Razor pinned Bomb ... **Lex Luger** beat **Ludvig Borga** ... **Irwin R. Schyster** beat **Marty Jannetty** ... **Doink** pinned **Bam Bam Bigelow** when **Dink** distracted Bigelow ... **Rick Martel** pinned **Virgil** ... **Owen Hart** beat **Bastion Booger.**
(12-12-93)

—Phil Maddox

NORTH CAROLINA

MORGANTON—Pro Wrestling Federation at the Flea Market: **American G.I.** beat **Russian Assassin** ... **Hillbilly** and **Terry Thomas** battled to a double-countout ... **The Texas Outlaw** beat **Super Ninja** ... **Randy Sledge** defeated **Black Scorpion** ... **Italian Stallion, Star Ryder,** & **Scott Powers** beat **Austin Steele, George South,** & **Terry Austin** ... **Italian Stallion** won a battle royal.
(01-08-94)

—Stan Weinberg

ELKIN—Pro Wrestling Federation at the National Guard Armory: **American G.I.** beat **The Russian Assassin** ... **Hillbilly** beat **Super Ninja** ... **Randy Sledge** beat **Scott Powers** ... **Italian Stallion** & **Star Ryder** beat **Terry Austin** & **George South** to capture the PWF tag team title ... **Italian Stallion** won a battle royal.
(01-07-94)

—Bob Rupart

RALEIGH—WCW at Dorton Arena: **Rick Steamboat** and **Ron Simmons** wrestled to a 15-minute, time-limit draw ... **Shockmaster** beat **Tex Slazenger** ... U.S. champion **Steve Austin** defeated **Brian Pillman** ... **Dustin Rhodes** defeated TV champion **Lord Steven Regal,** but Regal retained the title because Rhodes didn't defeat him in the required 10 minutes ... **Arn Anderson** pinned **Shanghai Pierce** ... **Sting** defeated **Brian Knobs** ... **Hawk** won a 20-man battle royal, last eliminating **Tex Slazenger.**
(12-29-93)

—Scott Penatzer

WINSTON-SALEM—WCW at the Coliseum Annex: **Arn Anderson** pinned **Paul Roma** ... **Rick Steamboat** defeated **Brian Knobs** ... **Sting** & **Hawk** beat **Rick Rude** & **Shanghai Pierce** (substituting for **Big Van Vader**) when Sting pinned Pierce ... U.S. champion **Steve Austin** defeated **Brian Pillman** ... **Dustin Rhodes** beat **Paul Orndorff** by disqualification ... World champion **Ric Flair** pinned TV champion **Lord Steven Regal** ... **Dustin Rhodes** won a 14-man battle royal, last eliminating **Lord Steven Regal.**
(12-28-93)

—David Roberson

CHARLOTTE—WCW Starrcade '93 pay-per-view at Independence Arena: **Terry Taylor** defeated **Equalizer** in a non-televised match ... **Paul Orndorff** & **Paul Roma** beat **2 Cold Scorpio** & **Marcus Alexander Bagwell** when Orndorff pinned Scorpio ... **Shockmaster** pinned **Awesome Kong** ... TV champion **Lord Steven Regal** and **Rick Steamboat** battled to a time-limit draw ... **Cactus Jack** & **Maxx Payne** beat **Tex Slazenger** & **Shanghai Pierce** when Jack pinned Slazenger ... In a best-of-three-falls match, **Steve Austin** defeated U.S. champion **Dustin Rhodes** in two falls to win the title ... **Rick Rude** beat **The Boss** with a sunset flip ... **Sting** & **Hawk** defeated World tag team champions **The Nasty Boys** by disqualification ... **Ric Flair** pinned World champion **Big Van Vader** to win the title.
(12-27-93)

—David Roberson

TAYLORSVILLE—Pro Wrestling Federation "Christmas Spectacular" at the Armory: **Italian Stallion** won a 10-man battle royal, last eliminating **Star Ryder** ... Tag team champions **George South** & **Terry Austin** defeated **Troy Powers** & **Star Ryder** ... In a loser-gets-10-lashes match, **Italian Stallion** beat **"Ruthless" Randy Sledge** ... Heavyweight champion **Austin Steele** defeated **American G.I.** ... **Flaming Youth** & **Cruel Connection II** beat **Black Scorpion** & **Masked Maniac.**
(12-25-93)

—Brock Chandler

TRINITY—AIWF at the Elementary School: **Chris Windham** & **Jumpin' Jimmy** defeated **Brian Danzig** & **Bad Brad** ... **The Intimidator** beat **Sebastian Kane** ... **TNT** defeated **Bad Brad** ... Lightweight champion **Jammer** and **Brian Bruise** battled to a double-countout ... **Chuckie Baby** pinned heavyweight champion **Rick Deezel** to win the title ... **Sebastian Kane** won a 12-man battle royal, last eliminating **Chuckie Baby.**
(12-18-93)

—Ricky McPherson

OHIO

CINCINNATI—WWF at Riverfront Coliseum: **Owen Hart** defeated **Bastion Booger** ... **The Headshrinkers** beat **The Smokin' Gunns** ... In a best-of-three, falls-count-anywhere match, **Crush** defeated **Randy Savage** ... **Lex Luger** beat **Ludvig Borga** ... **Doink the Clown** defeated **Bam Bam Bigelow** ... **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** beat World tag team champions **The Quebecers** by disqualification ... **Bret Hart** defeated **Shawn Michaels** in a cage match.
(12-30-93)

—Xavier Perez

OREGON

PORTLAND—Championship Wrestling USA at the Interstate Pavilion: **Dane Rush** and **Bernie Wayne** battled to a time-limit draw ... **The Silver Shadow** & **Karl Pope** defeat **The Minnesota Maulers** when Pope pinned **Mauler II** ... TV champion **Col. DeBeers** and **Bruiser Brian** wrestled to a time-limit draw ... **Larry Oliver** beat **Jesse Barr,** with **C.W. Bergstrom** and **Lou Andrews** chained together at ringside ... **Lou Andrews** defeated **C.W. Bergstrom,** with **Larry Oliver** and **Jesse Barr** chained together at ringside.
(01-01-94)

—Kenn Jones

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA—ECW TV taping at the ECW Arena: **Rock Public Enemy** defeated **Don E. Allen** & **Duane Gill** when **Rocco Rock** pinned Allen ... In a six-man tag team match, **Tommy Dreamer, Pat Tanaka,** & **Paul Diamond** beat **Johnny Hot Body, Kevin Sullivan,** & **Tasmaniac** when Tanaka pinned Hot Body ... **Mr. Hughes** (with **Jason**) defeated **Mikey Well Body** ... In a grudge match, **Pit Bull Psycho Mike** beat **The Sandman** by disqualification ... **Johnny Hot Body** defeated **Chad Austin** by submission ... **"Ironman" Tommy Cairo** pinned **Pit Bull Psycho Mike**... **Frankenstein** (with **Paul E. Dangerously**) pinned **Chad Austin** ... Heavyweight champion **Terry Funk** wrestled **Shane Douglas** to a 45-minute draw ... Tag team champions **Tasmaniac** & **Kevin Sullivan** defeated **Keith Shearer** & **Mikey Well Body** ... **Chad Austin** pinned **Doctor Disaster** ... **Frankenstein** pinned **Duane Gill** ... **Public Enemy** beat **Keith Shearer** & **Chad Austin** when **Rocco Rock** pinned Austin ... Heavyweight champion **Terry Funk** pinned **Pat Tanaka** ... **Tommy Dreamer** pinned **Doctor Disaster** ... **"Ironman" Tommy Cairo** & **The Sandman** defeated **Rockin' Rebel** & **Pit Bull Spike** when Sandman pinned Rebel ... In a non-title match, **Pat Tanaka** & **Paul Diamond** beat tag team champions **Kevin Sullivan** & **Tasmaniac** when Diamond pinned Tasmaniac.
(01-08-94)

—Bart Orkline

PITTSBURGH—WWF at the Civic Arena: **The Kid** defeated **Johnny Polo** ... **Diesel** beat **Bob Backlund** ... **Irwin R. Schyster** defeated **Marty Jannetty** ... **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** beat World tag team champions **The Quebecers** ... In a best-of-three, falls-count-anywhere match, **Crush** defeated **Randy Savage** ... **Doink the Clown** beat **Bam Bam Bigelow** ... **Lex Luger** & **Tatanka** defeated **Yokozuna** & **Ludvig Borga.**
(12-27-93)

—Debbie Coffey

PHILADELPHIA—ECW "Holiday Hell" at ECW Arena: **Chad Austin** pinned **Pit Bull Psycho Mike**... **"Awesome" Mike Awesom** pinned **Randy Starr** ... Tag team champions **Tasmaniac** & **Kevin Sullivan** defeated **J.T. Smith** & **Tommy Cairo** (substituting for **Jimmy Snuka**) when Tasmaniac pinned Cairo ... **Shane Douglas**

pinned **Tommy Dreamer** when **Sherri Martel** distracted Dreamer and Douglas hit him with a chain ... **Mr. Hughes** (with **Jason**) beat **The Sandman**, when Sandman couldn't continue due to a shoulder injury ... **The Rockin' Rebel** pinned **"Devious" Don E. Allen** ... In a no-disqualification match, **Terry Funk** pinned heavyweight champion **Sabu** to win the title when **Shane Douglas** hit Sabu on the head from behind ... In a body count match where one member of each team gets handcuffed in a cage, **Pat Tanaka** of **Bad Company** pinned **Rocco Rock** of **Rock Public Enemy** ... **Tommy Dreamer** won a lights-out battle royal, last eliminating **Shane Douglas.**
(12-26-93)

—Bart Orkline

SOUTH CAROLINA

GREENVILLE—Black Star Promotions at the Memorial Auditorium: **Johnny Dollar** pinned Southern junior heavyweight champion **Rick Michaels** to win the title ... **Mr. Jam** defeated **Ricky Starr** ... **J.W. Steele** beat **T.C. Carter** ... **Ivan Koloff** defeated **"Desperado" Steve Carlton** ... **Jimmy Valiant** beat **The Assassin** by disqualification ... **"Mad" Max Miles** defeated IWC champion **Randy Mulkey** to win the title ... **Greg Valentine** & **The Masked Undertaker** beat **The Confederates.**
(12-27-93)

—Danny Parris

TENNESSEE

MORRISTOWN—Smoky Mountain Wrestling at East High School: **Bobby Blaze** beat **The Hornet** ... **Killer Kyle** pinned **Anthony Michaels** ... **Tracey Smothers** defeated **Chris Candido** ... **The Rock 'n' Roll Express** defeated tag team champions **The Heavenly Bodies** by disqualification ... In a non-title street fight, **Tony Anthony** beat **Brian Lee.**
(01-08-94)

—Bill Needham

MEMPHIS—USWA at the Mid-South Coliseum: **Tony Williams** defeated **Reggie B. Fine** ... **Doug Gilbert** beat **Jeff Gaylord** ... In a hospital elimination match (stipulating that each wrestler would be eliminated as soon as he began to bleed) for the tag team title, the belts were held up after **Todd Morton** (of champions **Far Two Wild**) and **J.C. Ice** (of **PG-13**), the last two survivors, began bleeding at the same time ... In a mixed tag team match, **Lauren Davenport** & **Bert Prentice** beat **Sweet Georgia Brown** & **Reggie B. Fine** ... Southern champion **Brian Christopher** pinned **Buddy Landell** ... USWA champion **Jerry Lawler** beat **Eddie Gilbert** by disqualification when **Doug Gilbert** interfered ... In an eight-man tag team match, **Buddy Landell**, **Doug** & **Eddie Gilbert**, & **Killer Kyle** defeated **Jerry Lawler**, **Brian Christopher**, & **The Rock 'n' Roll Express** when Eddie pinned **Rick Morton.**
(01-03-94)

—Mark Mitchell

MEMPHIS—USWA at the Mid-South Coliseum: **Reggie B. Fine** defeated **Del Rios** ... **Jeff Gaylord** beat **Vampire Warrior** by disqualification ... **Lauren Davenport** defeated **Sweet Georgia Brown**, with **Bert Prentice** as special referee ... **Killer Kyle** defeated **Ken Wayne** ... Southern champion **Brian Christopher** beat **Buddy Landell** by disqualification ... Tag team champions **Far Two Wild** defeated **PG-13** ... **Doug** & **Eddie Gilbert** defeated **Brian Christopher** & **Jerry Lawler** when referee **Frank Morell** saw Christopher using a rope the Gilberts had brought to the ring ... **Killer Kyle** won a $5,000, 15-man battle royal, last eliminating **Brian Christopher.**
(12-27-93)

—Mark Mitchell

JOHNSON CITY—Smoky Mountain Wrestling at Freedom Hall: **Chris Candido** defeated **Brian Armstrong** ... **Prince Kharis** beat **Bobby Blaze** by TKO ... **The Moondogs** defeated **The Bruise Brothers** ... **The Bullet** beat **Dick Murdoch** (managed by **Jim Cornette**) ... **The Heavenly Bodies** defeated **Doug** & **Mike Furnas** when **Jim Del Ray** pinned Mike ... In a special "triple threat" match, heavyweight champion **Brian Lee** first pinned **Tracey Smothers**, then pinned **Tony Anthony.**
(12-26-93)

—Timothy A. Walker

KNOXVILLE—Smoky Mountain Wrestling "Christmas Chaos" at the Civic Center: **Chris Candido** pinned **Brian Armstrong** ... **Prince Kharis** defeated **Bobby Blaze** by TKO ... **The Bruise Brothers** and **The Moondogs** battled to a double-countout ... In a mask-vs.-**Jim Cornette's** hair match, **Dick Murdoch** (managed by Cornette) pinned **The Bullet**, who was unmasked only to be wearing another mask underneath ... **The Heavenly Bodies** beat **Doug** & **Mike Furnas** when **Jim Del Ray** pinned Mike after nailing him with a football helmet ... In a special "triple threat" match, heavyweight champion **Brian Lee** first pinned **Tracey Smothers** after **Chris Candido** interfered, then pinned **Tony Anthony.**
(12-25-93)

—Bill Needham

MEMPHIS—USWA at the Mid-South Coliseum: **King Kobra** defeated **J.D. Wolfe** ... **Reggie B. Fine** defeated **American Eagle I** ... **Sweet Georgia Brown** beat **Lauren Davenport** ... Tag team champions **Far Two Wild** defeated **PG-13** by disqualification ... **Eddie** & **Doug Gilbert** defeated **Brian Christopher** & **Dutch Mantel** when Doug pinned Mantel after Eddie hit him with a chain ... **Jerry Lawler** pinned USWA champion **Jeff Jarrett** to win the title.
(12-20-93)

—Mark Mitchell

MORRISTOWN—Smoky Mountain Wrestling at East High: **Tracey Smothers** and **Chris Candido** wrestled to a 15-minute time-limit draw ... **Prince Kharis** defeated **Bobby Blaze** ... In a handicap match, **The Bruise Brothers** beat **Jim Del Ray, Killer Kyle,** & **Jim Cornette** when **Don Harris** pinned Cornette ... In a non-sanctioned match, **The Rock 'n' Roll Express** battled **The Moondogs** to a no-contest ... Heavyweight champion **Brian Lee** pinned **Tony Anthony.**
(12-11-93)

—Bill Needham

MARYVILLE—All-State Wrestling at The Junction: **Greg Hart** & **The Ragin' Rebel** wrestled to a double-countout ... **Charles Long** & **Jerry Manuel** defeated **Rick Conners** & **The Lone Wolf** by disqualification when Conners hit the referee ... **Regulator Stone** beat **"Jumping" Jeff Gann** ... **Chic White** defeated **Bobby B** by submission ... **Chris Steelheart** pinned **Keith Hart** ... **Shoto** won a 12-man over-the-top battle royal.
(12-09-93)

—Bill Needham

TEXAS

DALLAS—Global Wrestling Federation at the Sportatorium: **Alex Porteau** and **Cpl. John Armstrong** battled to a time-limit draw ... **Moadib** pinned **Ricky Rob** after a flying headbutt ... **Scott Putski** defeated **Kendo Nagasaki** by disqualification after Nagasaki hit referee **James Beard** ... **Texas Gladiator** pinned **Black Bart** with a sunset flip ... In a non-title match, **John Hawk** pinned heavyweight champion **Chris Adams** after **Black Bart** tripped Adams ... In a Texas death match, **Action Jackson** beat **Rod Price** by disqualification when **Iceman Parsons** interfered.
(01-02-94)

—Ron Yarborough

DALLAS—Global Wrestling Federation at the Sportatorium: **Kendo Nagasaki** defeated **Cpl. John Armstrong** ... **Action Jackson** pinned **Chuck West** ... **Rod Price** pinned **"Maniac" Mike Davis** ... **Black Bart** & **John Hawk** (managed by **Gen. Scandor Akbar**) defeated tag team champions **Chaz Taylor** & **Steven Dane** to win the belts when Bart pinned Taylor ... **Sweet Daddy Falcone** defeated **Angel of Death** by countout ... **Black Bart** pinned **Plowboy Wilbur** ... **"Maniac" Mike Davis** beat **Alex Porteau** by disqualification after Alex used a chain ... **Chris Adams** pinned heavyweight champion **Iceman Parsons** after a super kick to win the title.
(12-25-93)

—Ron Yarborough

VIRGINIA

NEWPORT NEWS—Continental Wrestling Alliance at The King's Ring: **Napalm** defeated **Country Boy** ... **The Intruders** beat **Bad News** & **Billy Maddox** ... **Brian Perry** defeated **C.W. Anderson** ... U.S. champion **Ray Storm** beat **Roger Anderson** ... Tag team champions **The Country Club** defeated **Flash** & **Doug Gibson** ... Heavyweight champion **Bam Bam Stevenson** beat **Pat Anderson** ... **Pat Anderson** won a 16-man battle royal, last eliminating **Doug Gibson.**
(01-09-94)

—Henry Dean

WISE—Smoky Mountain Wrestling at Clinch Valley College: **Tracey Smothers** fought to a 20-minute draw with **Chris Candido** ... **Prince Kharis** beat **Bobby Blaze** ... **The Bruise Brothers** beat **Killer Kyle, Jim Del Ray,** & **Jim Cornette** when **Don Harris** pinned Cornette ... **The Rock 'n' Roll Express** battled **The Moondogs** to a no-contest ... In a non-sanctioned, non-title match, **"Dirty White Boy" Tony Anthony** beat Smoky Mountain champion **Brian Lee** by disqualification. Due to a prematch stipulation, Lee was whipped 10 times with a belt by **"Dirty White Girl" Kimberly** ... **Tracey Smothers** won a bunkhouse battle royal.
(12-10-93)

—Brian Nutter

INTERNATIONAL

CANADA

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA—River City Wrestling: **Stan Saxon** beat **Black Dragon** ... **Vance Nevada** & **King of Canada** defeated **Steve Stryker** & **Out Patient** ... **Dakota Moondog** & **Sluggo Smith** beat **Sgt. Steele** & **Cpl. Punishment** by disqualification ... **Robby Royce** defeated **Brian Jewel** by disqualification ... In a "loser-wears-a-diaper" match, **Caveman Broda** beat **Crybaby Levinsky.**
(01-06-94)

—Jason Mason

TORONTO, ONTARIO—WWF at Maple Leaf Gardens: **Owen Hart** defeated **Adam Bomb** ... **The Smokin' Gunns** beat **Shawn's Knights** when **Billy Gunn** pinned **The Red Knight** ... In a best-of-three, falls-count-anywhere match, **Crush** defeated **Randy Savage** after the "Macho Man" was attacked by **Yokozuna** before the third fall and forced to forfeit ... **Irwin R. Schyster** beat

The Kid ... **The Undertaker** defeated World champion **Yokozuna** by disqualification when Yokozuna used his salt bucket ... Intercontinental champion **Razor Ramon** beat **Shawn Michaels** by reverse decision ... **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** defeated World tag team champions **The Quebecers** by countout.
(12-26-93)

—Steve Argintaru

CLOVERDALE, BRITISH COLUMBIA—West Coast Championship Wrestling at the Cloverdale Fairgrounds Products Building: In a tournament to determine new International tag team champions: ***First round***—**Rocky Della Serra** & **Buddy Wayne** beat **The Polynesian Prince** & **Chechuck** ... **Mike Roselli** & **Randy Tyler** beat **Johnny Canuck** & **The Mighty Quinn** ... **Diamond Timothy Flowers** & **Firefighter Adrian** beat **Verne Seibert** & **The Bodyguard** ... ***Semifinals***—Flowers & Adrian received a bye ... Roselli & Tyler beat Della Serra & Wayne ... ***Finals***—Roselli & Tyler beat Flowers & Adrian to win the belts.
(12-11-93)

—Stuart Kemp

GERMANY

DUSSELDORF—WWF: **The Kid** defeated **Rick Martel** ... **Tatanka** (substituting for **Curt Hennig**) beat **Diesel** by disqualification ... **The Smokin' Gunns** defeated **The Red Knight** & **The Blue Knight** (substituting for **Well Dunn**) ... **Randy Savage** beat **Shawn Michaels** ... **Adam Bomb** defeated **Virgil** ... Intercontinental champion **Razor Ramon** beat **Irwin R. Schyster** ... **The Undertaker** defeated World champion **Yokozuna** by disqualification when Yokozuna used his salt bucket on Undertaker.
(12-08-93)

—Colin Bowman

INDIA

BOMBAY—Indo-Asian Wrestling at NSCI World Stadium: **Demolition Blast** defeated **Larry O'Day** ... **Lance Von Erich** beat **Vladimir Koloff** ... **Canadian Giant** defeated **Canadian Lumberjack** ... **Kamala** & **Brett Wolfe** beat **Mongolian Mauler** & **Leo Burke** to win the tag team title ... **Giant Warrior** pinned heavyweight champion **Barbarian** to win the title.
(12-12-93)

—Ravi Patel

CALCUTTA—Indo-Asian Wrestling at Netuji Indoor Stadium: In a tournament for the vacant heavyweight title: ***First round***—**Mongolian Mauler** beat **Leo Burke** ... **Canadian Lumberjack** defeated **Canadian Giant** ... **Kamala** beat **Larry O'Day** ... **Barbarian** defeated **Demolition Blast** ... **Lance Von Erich** beat **Giant Warrior** ... **Vladimir Koloff** defeated **Dusty Wolfe.** ***Quarterfinals***—Barbarian defeated Kamala ... Koloff beat Von Erich ... Lumberjack defeated Mauler. ***Semifinals***—Barbarian beat Lumberjack ... Koloff drew a bye. ***Finals***—Barbarian defeated Koloff.
(12-08-93)

—Ravi Patel

JAPAN

EAST OSAKA—Frontier Martial Arts at East Osaka City Gym: **Gosaku Goshogawara** beat **Mr. China** ... **Kenji Nakagawa** beat **Tetsuhiro Kuroda** ... **The Gladiator** beat **Damian** ... **Megumi Kudo, Miwa Sato, Nadeno,** & **Nurse Nakamura** beat **Crusher Mardomari, Sarke Tsuchiya, Combat Toyada,** & **Tsuyami Mack** ... **Big Titan** beat **Sabu** ... **Tarzan Goto, Mr. Gannosuke,** & **Battle Ranger** beat **Nirokats Ohya, Mideki Hosaka,** & **Dark Ranger** ... **Zinsei Shinzaki** & **Masaru Toi** beat **Terry Simms** & **Riki Fuji** ... **Mr. Pogo** & **Tsurumi** beat **Katsutoshi Niiyama** & **Atsushi Onita.**
(01-08-94)

—Koichi Yoshizawa

HIROSHIMA—All-Japan Pro Wrestling: **Tamon Honda** beat **Masao Inoue** ... **Bobby Fulton** & **Tommy Rogers—The Original Fantastics**—beat **Brian Costello** & **Richard Slinger** ... **Takama Ohmuri** beat **Ryukaku Izumida** ... **Haruka Eigen** & **Masanobu Fuchi** beat **Mitsuo Homata** & **Rusher Kimura** ... **"Barbarian" John Nord** & **Johnny Ace** defeated **Mark** & **Chris Youngblood** ... **Jun Akiyama** beat **Johnny Gunn** ... **Giant Baba** & **Stan Hansen** beat **Abdullah the Butcher** & **Kamala** ... **Kira Taue, Toshiaki Kawada,** & **Yoshinari Ogawa** beat **Mitsuhara Miasawa, Kenta Kobashi,** & **Asaru Asako.**
(01-08-94)

—Koichi Yoshizawa

TOKYO—WAR at Sumo Hall: **Nobukasu Hirai** & **Yuji Yasuraoka** beat **Yuji Nagata** & **Ryuichi Takaiwa** ... **The Great Kabuki** defeated **Black Cat** ... UWA middleweight champion **Ultimo Dragon** beat **Atlantis** ... **Earthquake John Tenta** pinned **Warlord** ... **Ashura Hara** & **Ishinriki** beat **King Haku** & **Masao Okihara** ... **Hiroshi Hase** beat **Koki Kitanaro** ... **Mil Mascaras** defeated **Oran Murcus Jr.** ... **Super Strong Machine** & **Hiromichi Fuyuki** beat **Shiro Koshinaka** & **Tatsutoshi Goto** ... **Genichiro Tenryu** defeated **Tatsumi Fujinami.**
(12-15-93)

—Koichi Yoshizawa

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY
MARCH

CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO—At the Cow Palace: **Red Bastien** defeated **Jan Madrid** ... **Kenji Shibuya** beat **Manuel Cruz** ... **The Samoans** defeated **Kim Duk** & **Beauregarde** ... **Igor Vodik** beat **"Crazy" Luke Graham** ... **The Masked Interns** (managed by **Dr. Ken Ramey**) defeated **Pepper Gomez** & **Rocky Johnson** ... **Pat Patterson** beat U.S. champion **The Great Mephisto** by disqualification.
(03-10-73)

—Nate Barry

MASSACHUSETTS

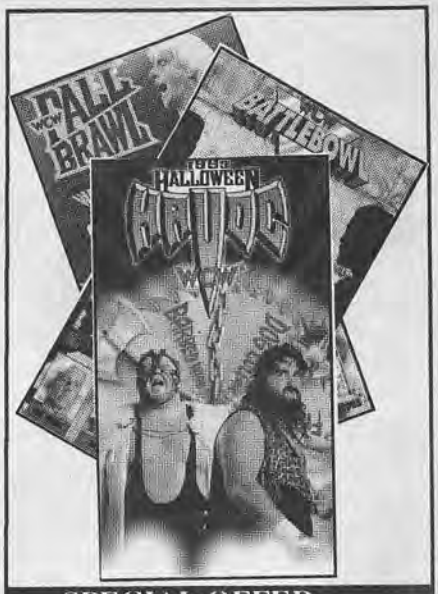
BOSTON—WWWF at Boston Garden: **Joe Nova** defeated **Juan Caruso** by submission ... **Akim Manuka** beat **Russian II** by disqualification ... **Sonny King** beat **Bull Pometti** ... **Jimmy Valiant** pinned **Tomas Marin** ... **Victor Rivera** pinned **Russian I** ... World tag team champions **King Curtis** & **Baron Scicluna** defeated **Chief Jay Strongbow** & **Gorilla Monsoon** ... **Ernie Ladd** pinned **Rene Goulet** ... World champion **Bruno Sammartino** beat **Smasher Sloan** by submission.
(03-25-72)

—Steve Ober

NEW YORK

NEW YORK—At Madison Square Garden: **Bolo Hawaka** defeated **The Sheik of Araby** ... **Sid Youngelman** beat **Les Longevin** ... **Pat O'Connor** and **Karl Von Hess** battled to a draw ... **Roy Heffernan** and **Chief Big Heart** wrestled to a draw ... **Al Costello** defeated **Chief Kit Fox** ... **Edouard Carpentier** beat **John Tolos** ... **Antonino Rocca** & **Miguel Perez** defeated **Dr. Jerry Graham** & **Hans Schmidt** when Rocca pinned Schmidt ... **Ricki Starr** beat **Ludwig Von Krupp.**
(03-17-58)

—Lincoln A. Werden



SPECIAL OFFER
All 3 videos for $99.95
plus $5.00P&H

Send to:
T.V. Sports Video
P.O. Box 1003
Darien, CT 06820

$39.95 each
plus $5.00 s&h
vhs format

Visa or Mastercard
call toll free
1-800-729-0360

Please send me at $39.95 each
☐ Halloween Havoc 93
☐ Fall Brawl 93
☐ Battlebowl

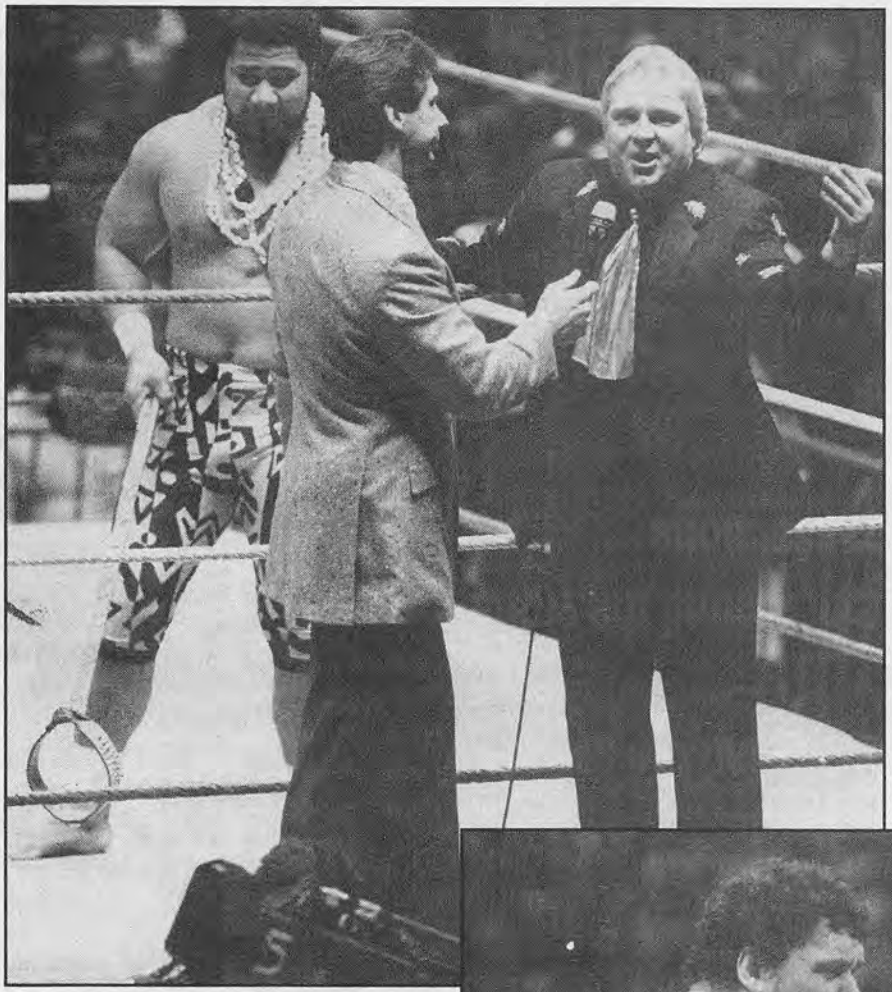
Please indicate method of payment
☐ Check or money order payable to TV Sports Video
☐ Visa /MasterCard

Exp Date_____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State Zip _____

Video _____
Tax for CT & NY _____
P & H $5.00 $5.00
Total $_____

Allow up to 4 weeks delivery. Foreign orders include $7.00 for each tape in addition to regular s&h charges.
International money orders only. No PAL

(Continued from page 23)



The chemistry between Heenan and Vince McMahon delighted WWF viewers for years. "The Brain" always spoke his mind, even if it meant embarrassing the man who signed his paychecks.

too seriously as an announcer. Look at Brent Musburger. When he was on *The NFL Today,* he made you believe that the loser of the upcoming football game was going to be shot at dawn. And look where that got him.

PETERS: Maybe so, but Musburger's working now, and you're not.

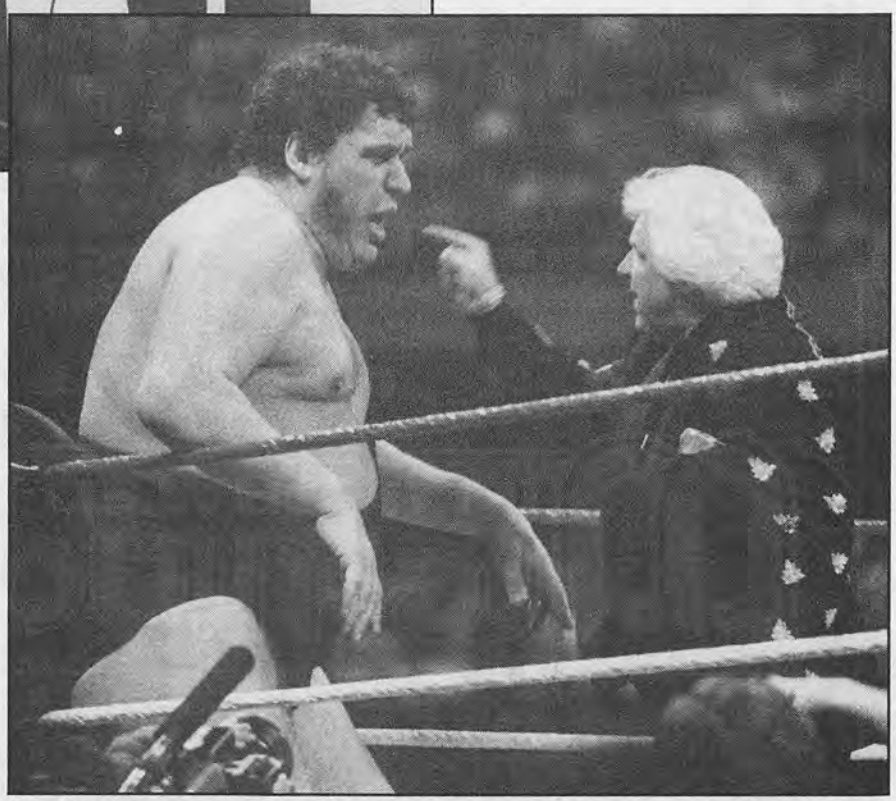
HEENAN: I'm not working right now because I chose to take some time off and figure out my next move. I'm not sure my next job will be in wrestling, either.

PETERS: Why not?

HEENAN: Because, what am I going to do? Go to WCW? It's a viable option, but they've already got a solid commentator in Jesse Ventura. There's too many pretty boys over there, too. I could get back into managing, but I don't know if that's the right thing to do, either.

ROSENBAUM: Why not? You were pretty good at it.

HEENAN: Because the wrestler of the 1990s is a free spirit. He doesn't want a manager. Look at Curt Hennig. Look at Lex Luger. These guys didn't want to listen to me. They thought they knew everything and told me to get lost. Both of them became fan favorites. Since then, the last belt they've held



When Heenan wasn't at the broadcast table, he was managing some of the finest rule-breakers around. Two of them—Andre the Giant and Ric Flair—even defeated Hulk Hogan to win WWF World titles.

was a glass of whiskey in their local tavern.

BERNUCCA: So if you don't want to announce, and you don't want to manage, what do you want to do?

HEENAN: I'd like do a talk show, something like Rush Limbaugh, but with guests. If you don't have guests, people get tired of the same voice over and over. It would tackle some serious issues, but it would have some comedy, too. But it sure wouldn't have any clowns throwing buckets of water on people. You know, a variety talk show.

ROSENBAUM: That's original, Bobby. There's only about 400 of those shows on TV already.

HEENAN: Maybe, but none of them have me as the host. Montel Williams? I already read his book—"Under The Tarnished Dome." Ricki Lake? You know, she should have a show where the topic is "Women Who Have Lost 100 Pounds And Are Still Fat." Then she can be a guest and a host on the same show. Conan O'Brien? Who is this guy? An Irish bodybuilder? Let's face it, guys, TV shows are so bad these days that there are other TV shows that tell you how bad they are.

PETERS: I have to admit that *Raw* isn't the same since you left. Do you think they can replace you?

HEENAN: It doesn't matter. *They* think they can replace me, or they wouldn't have let me go. From what I've heard, Jim Cornette has the most to offer. I'm not surprised, because this is a guy who has always spoke his mind, like me.

BERNUCCA: Does that mean you still watch the show?

HEENAN: On occasion. Let me tell you something, though. They need me a lot more than I need them.

PETERS: Who or what do you miss about it?

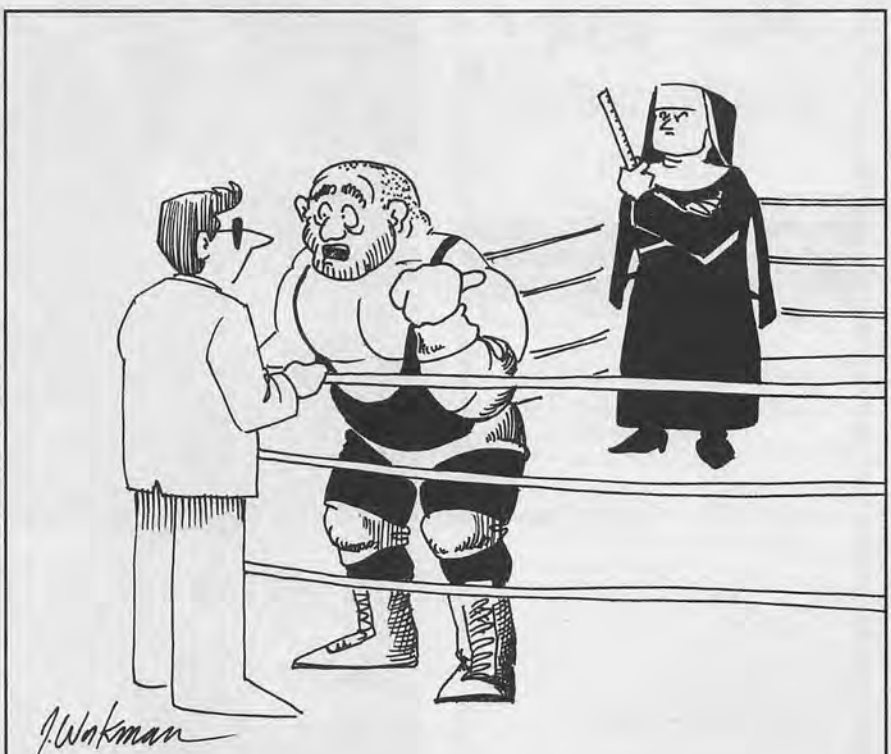
HEENAN: I miss the superstar personalities, like Ric Flair and Shawn Michaels. Flair was like the E.F. Hutton of wrestling. When he talks, people listen. You put a microphone in front of the guy and a hush comes over the whole arena, because the fans want to hear what he has to say, even if he is saying that all the fans are idiots—which they are, of course. I miss the anticipation of a big match, like when Flair was going to wrestle Hennig, with the loser leaving the federation. In the minutes before that match, the room just felt like it was going to explode. That's what it was all about for me.

BERNUCCA: What was your biggest disappointment in the WWF?

HEENAN: Having to say goodbye to Flair when he lost to Hennig. The guy is just the consummate pro. I think I took the loss harder than he did. I still say his shoulders were up, and there's videotape to prove it. But the prosecution in the Rodney King trial had videotape, too, didn't they?

ROSENBAUM: And your biggest thrill?

HEENAN: Without a doubt, managing the man who beat Hulk Hogan for the title. I did that twice, remember, with Andre and with Ric. I'll never forget the look on Hogan's face at the Royal Rumble when Flair outlasted him. He looked like a four-year-old who just dropped his ice cream cone in the gutter. I love proving people wrong. And for those people out there who think that this is the end of Bobby Heenan, well, I'm just going to have to prove them wrong, too. They don't call me "The Brain" for nothing. □



"This is the toughest ref I've ever seen."

PRO POWER CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

Pro Wrestling with an Edge

Wrestlings newest federation is growing by leaps and bounds. Fans are already asking when new game editions will be available. That's because of realism! You won't find silly sounding wrestlers like Tony the Tough Guy using non-sensical moves like vertical body crush here.

P.P.C.W. is like real arena wrestling that you play in your own home.

HERE'S WHAT YOU GET

- 20 wrestlers, each on a full size action sheet
- Each wrestler has 45-55 moves and holds (more than any other game offers) designed for his own unique ring style
- A game system that really does let you decide the tempo of a match
- A data file, mini bio, win/loss grid and drawing of the wrestler on the back of each game sheet

This is the game for the serious wrestling fan, so if you're ready for a hiptossing, armdragging, dropkicking, gutwrench suplexing good time, don't delay - order today!!!!!

$12.50 + $1.44 Shipping & Handling

PRO ACTION SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT
P.O. Box 268
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Send cashier's check or money order for fastest service. Print name and address on additional paper. PA residents add 6% sales tax. Foreign orders add 25% shipping and handling (U.S. currency only).

Allow 4-8 weeks for delivery

Hey, you! Yeah, you!

America wants you to be a Professional Wrestler !!!
Have you got what it takes?

Learn How to Become a PRO WRESTLER

The book that gives you the facts on a career in Pro Wrestling Today

The How-tos, The Where-tos, The Who-tos of getting started in the exciting field of *Wrestling*

- Wrestlers
- Valets
- Managers
- Commentators

Written by a Professional Wrestler
Make check payable and send to:

P.C.ENTERPRISES
P.O. Box 1108
Palm Springs, CA 92263

Please RUSH me ____ issues of
How To Become A Professional Wrestler
at the low price of only **$9.99**(plus 1.50 S & H)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Money Order payments for fastest delivery, allow an additional 2 weeks for personal checks. Please allow 4 - 6 weeks for delivery.

ringside

(Continued from page 7)

Dallas Page is back in WCW ...

In the WWF, several feuds are going strong. **Crush** and **Randy Savage** have been battling all over the country in "falls-count-anywhere" matches. Crush has won most of the matches, but with a little help from **Yokozuna** and **Ludvig Borga**.

Incidentally, the "Macho Man" has been reinstated as a broadcaster. He rejoined federation head **Vince McMahon** at the broadcast table at *Monday Night Raw*. **Irwin R. Schyster** made the mistake of confronting Savage there (the two were scheduled to wrestle later in the evening). Rather than listen to the taxman ramble on, Savage picked up a cake that had been baked for the celebration of *Raw's* first anniversary. Savage smashed

Tammy Fytch doesn't want Smoky Mountain champion Brian Lee to take part in a chain match; she fears any blood shed in the bout could spill on her dress.

the cake in Schyster's face ... and defeated him in the ring later.

I'm not sure what to make of the bizarre **Luna Vachon-Bam Bam Bigelow-Bastion Booger** triangle. Bigelow and Booger had been occasionally teaming. Then, during one televised match, Booger became infatuated with loony Luna when she rubbed his hump after he was injured. Bigelow didn't appreciate that.

Booger and Bigelow faced off one-on-one several weeks later; Vachon blew kisses to Booger during that match and enticed him into following her outside the ring. Turned out it was a trick. Bigelow attacked him from behind and quickly pinned him.

Razor Ramon continues to hold off the challenges of both Schyster and **Shawn Michaels**. The "Bad Guy" has even gone so far as to put his Intercontinental belt on the line in ladder matches. The only way to win that type of bout is to climb a ladder and claim the I-C belt that is suspended above the ring.

Diesel is again working as Michaels' bodyguard. Perhaps if the seven-footer lifted Michaels a few rungs of the ladder ...

Several newcomers have debuted in the WWF, including **Thurman "Sparky" Plug** and mysterious martial artist **Kwang**.

In Smoky Mountain, **Brian Lee** solidified his hold on the heavyweight title after he beat his two main rivals, **Tracey Smothers** and **"Dirty White Boy" Tony Anthony**, in one match on Christmas night. Lee, Smothers, and Anthony wrestled in a "Triple Threat" match, with the last survivor becoming SMW champ. Lee used interference from **Tammy Fytch** and **Chris Candido** to pin both his rivals.

After the match, Smothers and Anthony put their long-running feud to rest. Smothers helped "White Boy" chase away Lee and Fytch, who had been attacking **"Dirty White Girl" Kimberly**.

All, however, is not well with Tammy and Brian. At a TV taping in Chilhowie, Virginia, Lee announced he'd signed to defend his belt against Anthony in a chain match. That angered Fytch, who was worried that if blood was shed in the match, it might ruin her dress. Lee said she ought to be more worried about his welfare. Fytch has also appeared in Candido's corner for several of his matches.

You thought **Bob Armstrong** was through in SMW? Maybe not. **Jim Cornette** still thinks it's the deposed commissioner under the mask of **The Bullet**. No one knows for sure, but Cornette agreed to let Armstrong take over as commissioner if Bullet can beat **Terry Funk** in a February match in Knoxville, Tennessee. If Bullet loses, he has to unmask, crawl across the ring, and kiss Cornette's feet.

Funk continues to impress in ECW also. He defeated **Sabu** for the heavyweight title, then a few weeks later wrestled **Shane Douglas**, who is about 20 years his junior, to a 45-minute, time-limit draw.

The Bruise Brothers have been suspended from SMW for brawling in a locker room with **The Moondogs** around Christmas. **Ron** and **Don Harris** didn't mind; they moved to the USWA and quickly won the tag team belts from **Far Two Wild**.

Finally, it was a merry Christmas for **Chris Adams**. He beat **Iceman Parsons** for the Global belt. 1993 was a rocky year for "Gentleman Chris." He watched his marriage to the beautiful **Toni Adams** fall apart in the ring. At least the year ended well for him.

That's all for now. See you at ringside! □

Have Loads of Fun in the *Phantasy Wrestling Alliance*

Create & Manage your very own wrestlers for play-by-mail action!

Men's Leagues/Ladies' Leagues/Tag Teams

Win Trophies, Medals, Ribbons!

PHANTASY T.V. INTERVIEWS WITH ON-THE-SPOT REPORTING!

"You've tried the rest, now try the best!"

Choose 10 break-down holds:	Choose 5 finishing holds:
1. Head Lock	31. Belly to Belly
2. Face Rake	32. Bulldog
3. Hair Pulling	33. Gorilla Press
4. Eye Gouge	34. 360 off Top Rope
5. Biting	35. Abdominal Stretch
6. Choke	36. Elbow Smash
7. Arm Lock	37. Airplane Spin
8. Arm Twist	38. Flying Clothesline
9. Forearm Smash	39. Bear Hug
10. Leg Lock	40. Flying Elbow Drop
11. Scissors Grip	41. Head Butt
12. Overhead Toss	42. Flying Drop Kick
13. Front Face Lock	43. Back Breaker
14. Hip Toss	44. Neck Breaker
15. Body Tackle	45. Claw
16. Body Slam	46. Leg Drop
17. Karate Kick	47. Figure Four
18. Karate Chop	48. Big Splash
19. Step Over Toe Hold	49. Boston Crab
20. Knee Lift	50. Camel Clutch
21. Knee Drop	51. Cobra Clutch
22. Irish Whip	52. Cradle
23. Snap Mare	53. D.D.T.
24. Hammer Lock	54. Piledriver
25. Monkey Flip	55. Sleeper
26. Clothesline	56. Slingshot Suplex
27. Full Nelson	57. Small Package
28. Cross Body Block	58. Superplex
29. Punching	59. Power Slam
30. Suplex	60. Reverse Cradle

Send $3.00 (no coins) for game rules, league details and a Free Match to:

Tri-J Communications - Dept P

P.O. Box 542227 • Houston, TX 77254-2227

Include your wrestler's name & profile, manager's name, 10 break-down holds, 5 finishing holds (in order to be played), and your name and address.

STORM'S

DTW DREAM TEAM WRESTLING ™

ARE YOU **BORED** WITH THE SAME OLD PLAY-BY-MAIL WRESTLING LEAGUES WHERE **PHONEY** WRESTLERS COMPETE IN **IMAGINARY** RINGS?

YEAH? THEN *GET REAL!!!*

"MANAGE" YOUR FAVORITE *REAL LIFE PRO WRESTLERS* IN THE WORLD'S *ORIGINAL* PLAY-BY-MAIL "ROTO" PRO WRESTLING LEAGUE!!!

YOU'VE HEARD OF "ROTO" GAMES BEFORE. YOU KNOW, LIKE PICKING YOUR FAVORITE BASEBALL PLAYERS TO MAKE A TEAM OF YOUR OWN THEN PLAYING AGAINST YOUR FRIEND'S SPECIAL TEAM.

WELL, THIS IS THE SAME THING, ONLY IT'S WITH **YOUR FAVORITE WRESTLERS!!!**

Enter your team in cage matches, battle royals, "interfere from ringside" as "manager," *THE WORKS!!!* Win titles, get a fun, BEHIND-THE-SCENES pro wrestling newsletter... there's so much, we can't fit it all here!!! All for *less than* the cost of a wrestling program *each month!!!*

HERE'S WHAT YOUR ONE TIME $8 MEMBERSHIP FEE GETS YOU:

ENTRY IN TO D.T.W.. ONE FREE DRAFT. THE OFFICIAL D.T.W. HANDBOOK & MEMBERSHIP CARD PLUS THE MANAGER'S DRAFT SHEET!!!

SEND $3 CHECK OR M.O. PAYABLE TO:

STORM PRODUCTIONS™

P.O. BOX 285

DRACUT, MA. 01826-0285

COPYRIGHT © 1993 STORM PRODUCTIONS

win, lose, or draw

(Continued from page 12)

The two antagonists, Harley Race and Big Van Vader, try to goad Flair on and force him to retire. They didn't succeed this time.

VADER: *Arggggh!*

RACE: That was a lucky shot, Flair. Is that all you have? Is that all you brought with you tonight? Too bad you won't be able to enjoy your retirement in good health. Get to work, Vader!

VADER: Time to pay, Flair! Get up!

RACE: Flair, look at you, you stinking dog! You pathetic ... It didn't have to end this way. You could have quietly hung it up. Nobody cared. What are you trying to prove?

FLAIR: There isn't a thing to prove. I win or I retire. What is there to prove? You, on the other hand, have to prove this guy can beat me. He hasn't done it yet. Think he can, Harley? No doubts?

RACE: Don't skirt the issue, Flair! You picked a funny place to lose, right in your hometown. You're breaking a lot of hearts tonight, and breaking your own bones. Sad, isn't it, Vader?

VADER: I'm happy, man! I'm happy! This guy can challenge me anytime!

FLAIR: This will be the only challenge I need. You should have studied my matches more closely, Race. I beat you in '83 with a lot less than I know now. He held out on you, Vader. How do you like that?

VADER: I can't hear you!

RACE: All I can hear now, Flair, are the whimperings of a beaten man. Why don't you just call it off now and end the agony? Your whole family's here tonight. Think of your kids.

FLAIR: I'm thinking about how fortunate I am to have my family here with me. Any pain I suffer is worth that privilege. They're as much a presence in this ring as Vader is. But I don't expect you to understand.

VADER: You can't be coming back, Flair, not now! Race!

RACE: Give me some room to think! Forget it, Flair. It's not going to happen. Not now, not ever. You're too old. You're too slow. You're doing it with smoke and mirrors. I am the manager of the greatest champion in WCW history. He will conclude this year in possession of the World title.

FLAIR: When does he intend to steal the belt from my dressing room?

VADER: Shut up! Shut up and lose! You're not gonna ruin this night ...

RACE: For me! I've waited too long for this. This Starrcade is mine!

FLAIR: You know your history, after all. It still eats at you. It won't let you go. Ten years isn't such a long time, is it? It was all supposed to end tonight. No more nightmares. You told Vader it was just another match. You knew it was a whole lot more.

VADER: It's over, Flair! Stand still and it won't hurt as much!

RACE: Goodbye, Flair! See you on the links!

FLAIR: I'm full of surprises tonight, gentlemen. And here's the last one.

VADER: Where's my belt? WHERE'S MY BELT?

RACE: Flair, this isn't over! Look at me! This isn't over! You just delayed the inevitable. Soon you'll be retired, just like me! Vader is coming back! I'm coming back! Do you understand me?

FLAIR: Whoooooo! □

Pro Wrestling Illustrated

UPDATED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY NIGHT

HOTLINE

When it comes to wrestling, *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* magazine has all the inside information you want and it's only a phone call away.

If it happens in the ring, the locker room, or on the road, you'll hear it here first.

To get all the breaking stories from every federation, call the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Hotline now and you'll be the first to learn about . . .

Exclusive news from behind the scenes
Upcoming events
Up-to-date results from around the world
Title changes and transactions
Up-to-date ratings
Wrestler of the week

Plus . . . Tell the editors of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* what you want to see in the magazine. Dictate a letter to the Editor-in-Chief. Selected letters will be printed in *Pro Wrestling Illustrated.*

CALL NOW

IN THE U.S. 1-900-884-4PWI
IN THE U.K. 0891 331 144

This service is available on both rotary-dial and touch-tone phones

* Cost per minute in the United States is $1.49 per. Cost per minute in the United Kingdom is 36p cheap rate and 48p at all other times incl. VAT.

Kids, get your parents' permission.
BCM Box 6424, London, WC1N 3XX

1367/05-93

IN THE U.S. 1-900-884-4PWI
IN THE U.K. 0891 331 144

WANNA BE A WRESTLER?
Phone 904-934-8435
SKULLKRUSHERS WRESTLING SCHOOL
TEACHERS - Exotic Adrian and Miss Linda

WRESTLING MASKS	$ 12
SPANDEX TIGHTS	$ 40
SPANDEX TRUNKS	$ 25
SPANDEX LEOTARDS State Waist Size and Color Preference.	$.30
SKULLKRUSHER T-SHIRTS	$10
SKULLKRUSHER TANK TOPS	$10
SKULLKRUSHER SWEAT SHIRTS Adult and Kid Sizes Available–State Size.	$15
WRESTLING VIDEOS	$15

SEND $1.00 P & H FOR NEW COMPLETE LIST
BOOTS • GOWNS • BELTS • LEOTARDS • TIGHTS • KNEE PADS • ELBOW PADS, ETC. • TRUNKS • AND LADIES & KIDS WRESTLING WEAR

Send Check or Money Order Plus $3Postage & Handling on All Orders to: **BIZARE BAZZAR**
P.O. Box 6188, Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO BIZARE BAZZAR

PRO WRESTLING PROMOTER

Find out if you've got what it takes to be a wrestling promoter!

- You create the wrestlers (actual or from your imagination).
- Over 190 actual arenas (including capacity and rental fees).
- Your the matchmaker: choose singles, tag-team, or 6 man tag-team.
- Choose specialty matches such as Steel Cage or Texas Death.
- You choose the event type (including special events such as pay-per-view).
- You set the ticket prices and the advertising budget.
- Each event shows a net profit/loss.

PWP is available in two versions:
Text: $29.95
256 Color VGA Graphics: $49.95
Please send check or money order to:
WRB Creative Marketing Group
PO Box 2753 · Shawnee Mission, KS 66201 · (417) 781-4248
MC/Visa accepted via phone.
Please include disk size desired.

from the desk of...

(Continued from page 8)

don't believe it. Mature, yes. Veteran, yes. But old? Not after Starrcade, he's not.

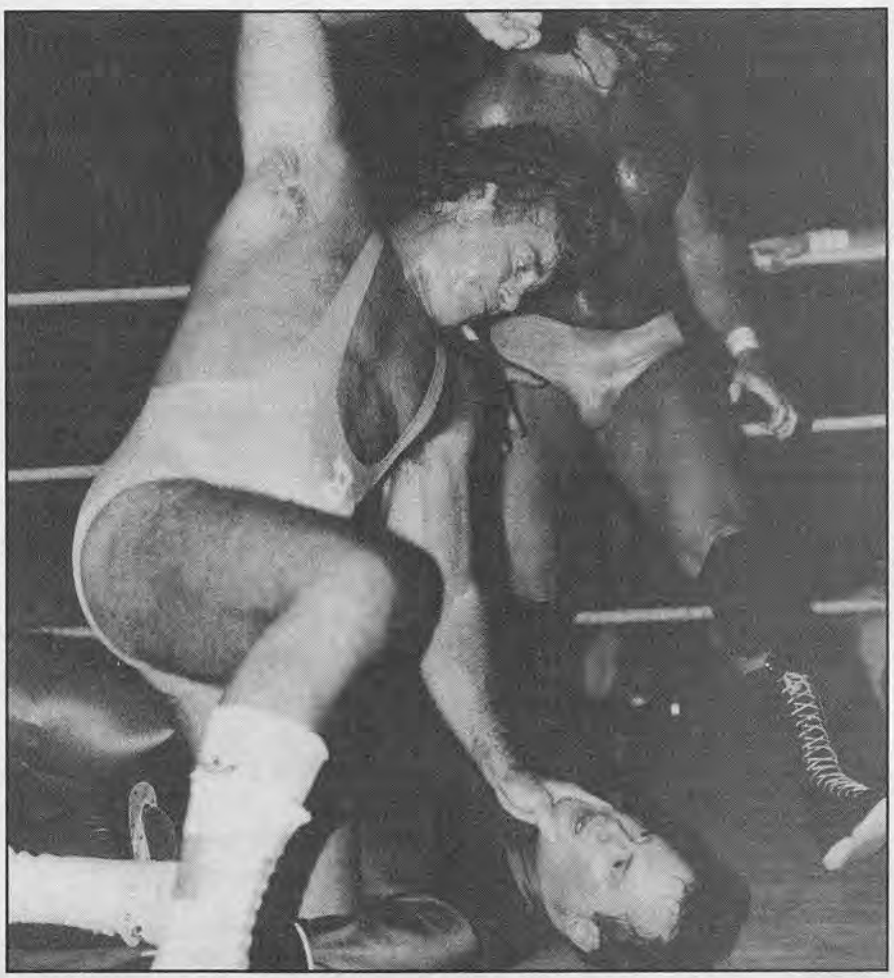
Imagine if Flair had been denied his chance. Or think of the great Hulk Hogan, still wrestling in his 40s. At this writing, the legendary Dusty Rhodes is planning to come out of retirement to battle The Assassin in a show of paternal pride and protectiveness.

Are we prepared to take heroes out of the sport simply because they reach a certain age? I think not.

Wrestling matches are won as much by experience and savvy as by strength and agility. Virtually all wrestlers improve with age, learning and improving with each match. Yes, wrestlers lose some physical prowess as they move into middle age. But that is often compensated for by the intangibles and the awareness that can come only from years of competition.

As a publisher of boxing magazines, I was among the many who laughed at George Foreman's comeback. He couldn't compete with younger men, I felt. He was a joke and a discredit.

Well, Foreman proved me wrong. He may not have won the heavyweight title, but he sure held his own against Evander Holyfield. Foreman weathered Holyfield's many punches and delivered some prodigious blows himself. When it was over, Foreman



Still in tremendous condition at 60 years old, former Smoky Mountain Commissioner and competitor Bob Armstrong is as fit to compete as men half his age (though admittedly this opponent is not much of a test). Should he be forced to retire?

was still standing, and standing proud.

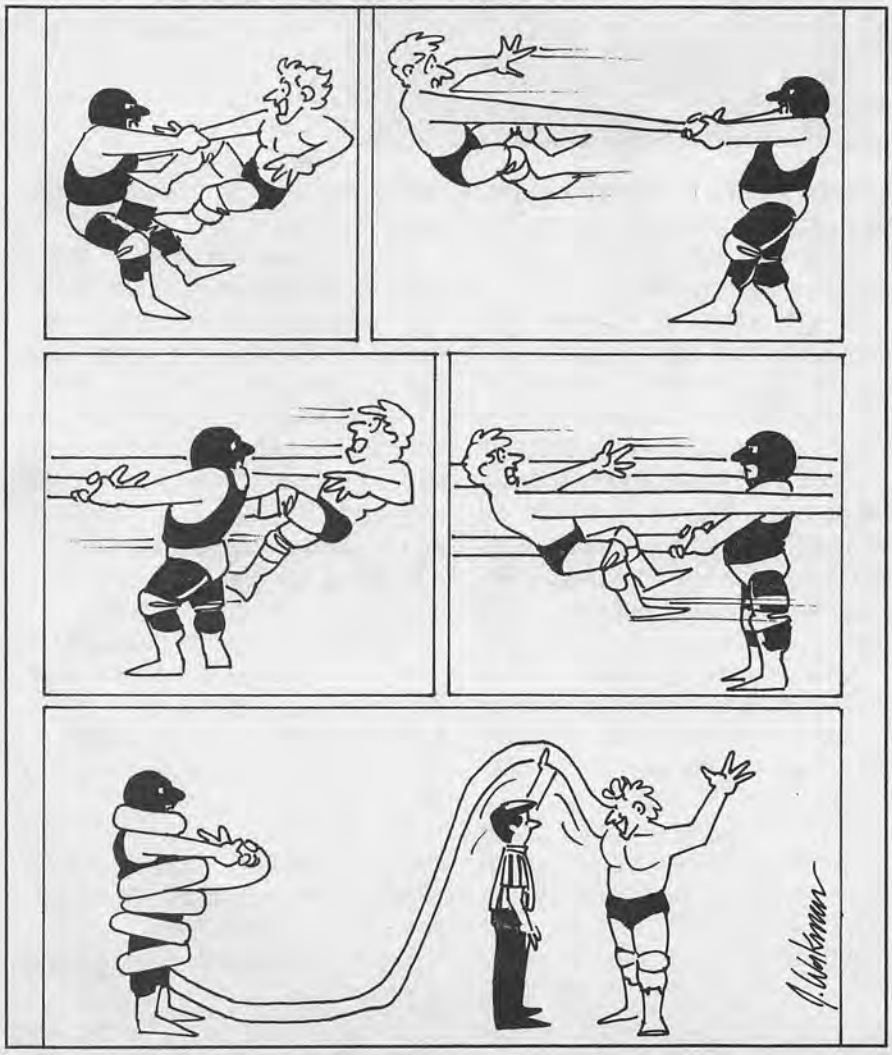
It was not long ago that Roberto Duran, too old to fight according to many, beat the younger, fitter Iran Barkley, for the World Boxing Council middleweight title in one of the most inspirational boxing performances in years.

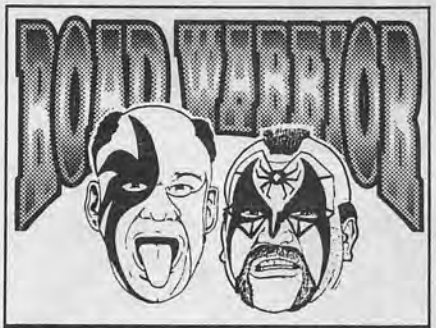
Even turn your gaze to football, a sport as physical as any. Phil Simms and Joe Montana, both in their late-30s, were the unquestioned leaders of their teams this past season.

This is not to say that any old man should be allowed to wrestle; I cringed seeing ancient, out-of-shape Harley Race competing in Big Van Vader's place. Instead of some arbitrary retirement age, I'd prefer a stringent physical and agility test for all wrestlers. I leave it to better minds than mine to devise a multifaceted test, with enough considerations to allow deserving wrestlers of various talents—from the huge Yokozuna to the nifty Rick Steamboat—to pass. Such a test would surely allow people like Flair and Hogan to compete. But I doubt someone as out of training as Race and perhaps Rhodes could ever pass. I say, if a man is 50, or 60 or whatever age, and passes a well-designed federation physical, let him follow his dream.

I sympathize with those who want to see young men, not geezers, in the ring. I, too, would like to protect those without the sense to protect themselves. But none of that is worth depriving wrestlers of the individual freedom to wrestle as long as they are physically able.

A mandatory retirement age would be unfair to wrestlers and would rob fans of witnessing some of the all-time great matches. Just imagine: We might not have seen Ric Flair—that "old" man—bring down the house in Starrcade. □





FAN CLUBS

Call

1-800-414-

HAWK

MEMBERS WILL RECIEVE:

- AUTOGRAPHED PICTURES
- MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE
- MATCH INFORMATION
- ROAD WARRIORS MERCHANDISE CATALOG: T-SHIRTS, HATS, LIFE-SIZE DOLLS & MUCH MORE!

PICK-UP THE PHONE AND CALL OR CLIP AND SEND COUPON TODAY!

JOIN NOW !!

☐ **YES!**

PLEASE ENROLL ME IN WRESTLINGS **HOTTEST** NEW FAN CLUBS. ENCLOSED IS MY MEMBERSHIP FEE!

☐ **ANIMAL FAN CLUB..... $5**

☐ **HAWK FAN CLUB..... $5**

☐ **ROAD WARRIORS FAN CLUB..... $7.50**

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____

STATE_____ ZIP_____

AGE____ PHONE_____

MAIL TO:

WARRIOR FAN CLUBS
P.O. BOX 24198
EDINA, MN 55424

blayze

(Continued from page 21)

While no one can singlehandedly revive women's wrestling, it's been years since a major U.S. federation had a women's champion. Blayze now has the highest profile owned by a woman wrestler since Wendi Richter (managed by Cyndi Lauper) dethroned Fabulous Moolah.

recorded a song and made a video. Nevertheless, wrestling journalists in Japan said she always gave her athletic skills top priority.

When she entered WCW in 1991, many expected her to usher in a new era for women's wrestling in that organization. But after only a handful of matches, she signed on as an aide to Paul E. Dangerously's Dangerous Alliance. Instead of exchanging armlocks and dropkicks with fellow athletes, she ran interference for rulebreakers like Rick Rude.

"She wanted to wrestle, but WCW didn't have any real competition for her," a friend said. "Publicly she put on a good face, but privately it irked her."

Blayze's supporters point to the Beach Blast '92 bikini contest with Missy Hyatt as the nadir of her WCW experience.

"Alundra's intent was to prove that she is as beautiful as she is talented," the same friend added. "She certainly did that, but in doing so she stooped to Missy's level. She let Missy get to her. She didn't need to prove a damn thing to Hyatt or anyone else."

Blayze's accomplishments in WCW were nonetheless significant. Those in the know will tell you that she, not Dangerously, was the real mastermind behind his Alliance. She confirmed what she had demonstrated back in her AWA days, that she can manage as well as anyone.

Nevertheless, she left WCW having disappointed many of her boosters. They hope that in the WWF, she focuses not on managing, but on defending her newly won title.

"Alundra has the ability to be a really great champion," said Sherri, "but she has a tendency to overreach. She might try to prove she can manage and defend the belt at the same time. I'm afraid that if she does that, the fans will care less and less about what she does in the ring, and she'll almost be forced to again devote herself full-time to managing. In the long run, that won't do anyone much good.

"She has to use that popularity of hers to keep people's attention on the wrestling. Maybe then they'll start to realize what great athletes we are and that we truly are worth watching."

On December 13 in Poughkeepsie, New York, Alundra and the WWF started a Blayze. Will women's wrestling catch fire ...

We'll learn the answer in the next few months. □

GET ALL THE NEWS—FAST AND FIRST!

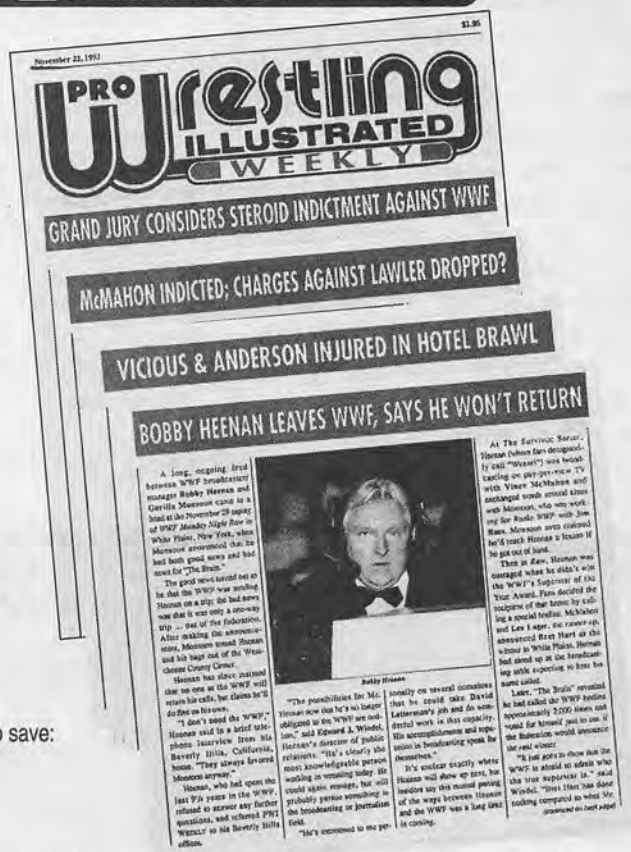
PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

PACKED WITH INFORMATION!
Each weekly issue contains the latest news and gossip, a calendar of upcoming cards, "Yay & Nay" and "Who's Hot, Who's Not" columns, "Wrestler of the Week" and "Match of the Week" features, plus "Steve Anderson's View" (wrestling's best political cartoon), ratings, trivia, "Transactions," a lively editorial, "Reporter's Notebook," "This Week In History," and an extensive collection of match results! You get all this—each and every week!—in a bold newsletter format that keeps you on top of today's wrestling news today!

FIRST WITH THE NEWS!
Because *PWI Weekly* comes out *every* week, all the news is as fresh as can be. You'll be the first to know about the title changes, the big match signings, the major controversies, and the triumphs and tragedies throughout the *entire* wrestling world!

STILL NOT SURE?
Want to try a sample issue of *PWI Weekly*? No problem! Just send us $1.95 and we'll send you a copy of *PWI Weekly* hot off the press. We're certain that once you see all the news, features, and information packed into our newsletter, you'll want to become a subscriber.
(Sorry, no credit cards accepted for single-issue orders.)

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
PWI Weekly is cover-priced at $1.95 per issue, and we offer you three big ways to save:
- 17 weekly issues for just $27.99, a 16% savings off the cover price
- 34 weekly issues for just $49.99, a 25% savings off the cover price
- 52 weekly issues for just $69.99, a 31% savings off the cover price


$1.95
November 22, 1993
PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY
GRAND JURY CONSIDERS STEROID INDICTMENT AGAINST WWF
McMAHON INDICTED; CHARGES AGAINST LAWLER DROPPED?
VICIOUS & ANDERSON INJURED IN HOTEL BRAWL
BOBBY HEENAN LEAVES WWF, SAYS HE WON'T RETURN

Send to:
London Publishing Co.
P.O. Box 910
Fort Washington, PA 19034

☐ NEW
☐ RENEWAL

Please indicate method of payment:
☐ Check or money order
(enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)
☐ VISA
☐ MasterCard

Card number: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Expiration date: ____/____
MO/YR

(***Pennsylvania residents add 6% sales tax)***

YES! I want to be the first with all the news! Please send me a subscription to *PWI Weekly* as follows:
☐ 17 issues for just $27.99, a 16% savings
☐ 34 issues for just $49.99, a 25% savings
☐ 52 issues for just $69.99, a 31% savings
☐ I'd like to see a sample copy before I subscribe. Enclosed please find a check or money order for $1.95

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____APT_____

CITY_____STATE_____ZIP_____

Offer good in U.S. and Canada only. Foreign airmail orders: $2.70 for single issue; $44.99 for 17 issues; $83.99 for 34 issues; $110.99 for 52 issues. International money orders only.

AVAILABLE BY SUBSCRIPTION ONLY!

SPECIAL NOTE TO BRITISH FANS: *PWI Weekly* is available by subscription in the U.K. exclusively from "Turnbuckles UK." For details, send S.A.E. to P.O. Box 278, Maidstone, Kent, ME156GE.

1935/12-93

(Continued from page 16)

the sign the rock star Prince has taken as his new name. Which is it, Mr. Darkharte: Are you a woman, or an elfin androgynous black musician? The last symbol is the yin and yang, an eastern notation representing the peaceful blending of opposing forces. Are you a spiritual mystic, too? Or, more likely, are you some Satan-worshiping, heavy metal, white Beavis & Butt-head trash who has no comprehension of the forces you invoke, who in your ignorance thinks it's cool and mysterious to associate your name—if that *is* your real name—with powerful symbols thousands of years old.

So which is it, K.C.? Are you a monster, a fraud, a woman, or just some kid whose cruel misfortune it was to be born in Mississippi?

Dear Eddie,

What is going to happen to Big Van Vader? Will he disappear like Superstar Graham after he lost his World title?

JONAS MENDICAMP
Lancaster, PA

Dear Jonas,

There's little chance of that. Graham, though a superstar in his day, was a one-dimensional muscleman. By the time he lost his title, his body was already beginning to disintegrate from steroid abuse. Vader is the prototype wrestler of the future—fast, big, and powerful. A whole repertoire of skills. His loss to Flair was a toe-stubber, nothing more. Vader will be a force as long as he desires to remain in the ring.

Ellner wants fans of Big Van Vader to stop worrying. Despite Vader's recent loss to Ric Flair, he says the big man from Colorado should be a force in pro wrestling for years to come.

Dear Eddie,

I have been told you are the man in wrestling with all the answers. I want to get into management but don't know where to get started. Could you send me some information on becoming a wrestling manager.

ROBERT BENTON JR.
Pittsfield, NH

Dear Bobby,

First of all, you need brains and a personality, two prerequisites that pretty much exclude you. Have you considered managing other professional athletes ... like greyhounds, or fighting cocks?

Dear Eddie,

I would love to ask a few questions about the magnificent manifestation of ultimate manhood—no, not you, Eddie. I'm talking about Lex Luger. Do you think Lex should change his name to Superman? Do you think he could be the next Hulk Hogan?

JANE POLSTON
Waco, TX

Dear Jane,

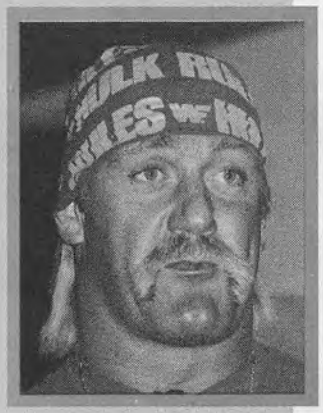
So it's true you were killing time at the Branch Davidian library. I mean, where else could your brain formulate such odd questions? Yes, I think Luger should change his name to Stuporman. And, no, even if he shaved his head and grew a mustache, he couldn't be the next Hulk Hogan. Now what? Face it, Jane, Lex has as much integrity as a mob informant. Despite all those muscles, Luger blows in whichever direction the fairer wind will take him. At least David Koresh had principles he was willing to die for, however absurd they may have been. □

this month in...

WRESTLING SUPERSTARS

Special section: The 10 wrestlers who are an embarrassment to the sport!

HULK HOGAN reveals his WrestleMania memoirs for the first time



PLUS ...

A sizzling "Superstar Dream Match" pitting **STING** against **BRET HART** ... Where do **BIG VAN VADER** and **HARLEY RACE** go from here? ... **DUSTIN RHODES**: "What's the point of playing by the rules?" ... **JEFF JARRETT**: "I'll give **JERRY LAWLER** a country beating!"

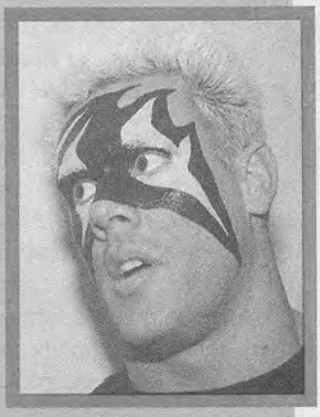
All this—and much more!—in the Summer 1994 issue of ***Wrestling Superstars***

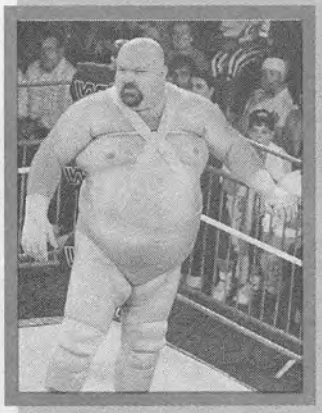
ON SALE MARCH 8!

SPORTS REVIEW Wrestling

FROM THE PUBLISHERS OF PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED

STING reveals: "My 10 greatest fears!"





What **BASTION BOOGER** looks for in a woman

PLUS ...

You won't believe it! Wrestlers' "own" personal ads! ... **HULK HOGAN** is mad as hell and he's not gonna take it anymore!... The many faces (and phases) of **ALUNDRA "MADUSA" BLAYZE** ... Gone, but not forgotten: An update on **BARRY WINDHAM** ... *Yeccch!* Wrestling's most famous foreheads

All this—and much more!—in the May 1994 issue of ***Sports Review Wrestling***

NOW ON SALE!

between falls

(Continued from page 5)

I think it's great that Hogan is wrestling for all the fans in Japan. Maybe he'll be smart enough to stay there.

VINCENT NIETO
Montebello, CA

RIC BETTER THAN BRET

I used to cheer for Bret Hart, but not anymore. How can he call Ric Flair "overrated"? Ric Flair is the greatest wrestler of all-time! Flair has been world champion 10 times, while you, Bret, are having trouble regaining your title from the fat Yokozuna (someone Flair would pin easily).

Bret, you're a great wrestler, but until you can dominate the WWF for about 10 years, then go to WCW and win its title, you can't even be mentioned in the same breath as "Nature Boy" Ric Flair!

LES HEDGER, USN
Diego Garcia

WCW HAS ABILITY

After reading "WWF vs. WCW: Which Is Better?" (February 1994), I totally disagree with you. It is true that the verdict should go to the WWF, but by a 4-3 margin, not 5-2. WCW leads in overall wrestling ability.

Big Van Vader would down Yokozuna, Lord Steven Regal would outwrestle Tatanka, Sid Vicious would destroy a not-so-perfect Curt Hennig, and Ric Flair would beat Randy Savage on his worst night.

WWF needs to stop clowning around.

CEDRIC JENKINS
Phoenix, IL

GETTING BETTER

I must say I cannot believe the way the WWF as a whole has improved over the past year. For so long it was stagnated like swamp water, but it finally got wise and expanded its horizons by acknowledging the existence of other federations and even swapping talent with them. That was the shot in the arm the WWF needed. It's like a breath of fresh air for the fans also, as it revitalized interest in the sport.

Now it seems WCW could use some resuscitation also. It, too, could bring back women's wrestling to stimulate interest. It ought to make an agreement with ECW or another federation. All this is very exciting for both wrestlers and fans alike, and is sorely needed to keep the sport fresh and alive.

RITA M. BUDA
Chicago □

MOVING?

Kindly give us 8 weeks advance notice

Are you moving? If so, please give us 8 weeks advance notice so we can continue to service your subscription promptly. Check the magazine(s) listed below you subscribe to:

- ☐ THE WRESTLER
- ☐ INSIDE WRESTLING
- ☐ WRESTLE AMERICA
- ☐ PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED
- ☐ WRESTLING SUPERSTARS
- ☐ PWI WEEKLY

NAME

OLD ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP

NEW ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP

EFF. DATE

Clip this form and send to:

LONDON PUBLISHING CO.
P.O. BOX 910
FT. WASHINGTON PA 19034

Bret Hart should not have labeled Ric Flair "overrated," states reader Les Hedger. While he says both are great wrestlers, Hart has a long way to go before he can be rated in Flair's class.

BACK ISSUES OF

PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

Complete your collection of PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED. Don't miss out on the excellence that has made PWI the leader in wrestling journalism. Each issue contains a giant FULL-COLOR poster of one of your favorite wrestling stars, plus, beginning with the September 1990 issue, PWI is packed with color in every issue! Quantities are limited, so order today!

[NOTE: Cover stories noted in boldface.]

January 1983/CENTERFOLD: Ken Patera. **Rick Steamboat,** Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.
April 1983/CENTERFOLD: Superstar Graham. **Mil Mascaras,** Valentine, Orndorff, Hart.
July 1983/CENTERFOLD: Ivan Koloff. **Tommy Rich,** Patera, Von Erich, Snuka.
August 1983/CENTERFOLD: Larry Zbyszko. **Roddy Piper,** Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.
December 1983/CENTERFOLD: Wahoo McDaniel. **Dusty Rhodes,** Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.
January 1984/CENTERFOLD: Harley Race. **Rick Martel,** Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.
June 1984/CENTERFOLD: Dick Slater. **Ted DiBiase,** Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, Hogan.
July 1984/CENTERFOLD: Paul Ellering. **Jimmy Valiant,** JYD, Fab Ones, Gagne, Windham.
September 1985/CENTERFOLD: Junkyard Dog. **Magnum T.A.,** Von Erich, Hogan, AWA scouting reports.
February 1986/CENTERFOLD: Nikita Koloff. **Mike Von Erich,** Warriors, Santana, Taylor, Barbarian, Race.
October 1986/CENTERFOLD: John Studd. **Nikita Koloff,** Savage vs. Bundy, Landell, Flair vs. Luger, Simpson.
January 1987/CENTERFOLD: Fabulous Freebirds. **Roddy Piper,** Nikita vs. T.A., Snuka, Simpson.
November 1987/CENTERFOLD: George Steele. **Nikita Koloff,** Warriors, Harts, Hogan, Windham.
January 1988/CENTERFOLD: The Road Warriors. **Ted DiBiase,** Flair-Garvins, Hogan & Ventura, Zbyszko.
May 1988/CENTERFOLD: Sting. **Andre,** Valentine-Beefcake, Flair, Cornette, Owen Hart.
August 1988/CENTERFOLD: Al Perez. **Savage & Hogan,** Gilbert-Lawler, Four Horsemen, Kerry Von Erich.
December 1988/CENTERFOLD: Hacksaw Duggan. **Four Horsemen,** Brody, Bigelow, Garvin, Precious.
February 1989/CENTERFOLD: Jake Roberts. **Luger,** Hogan-Savage, Kevin Von, Beefcake-Bass.
April 1989/CENTERFOLD: Rick Steiner. **Savage,** Dangerously, Muraco, Turner, Powers.
June 1989/CENTERFOLD: Rick Steamboat. **Hogan vs. Savage,** Warriors, Zbyszko, Rhodes.
July 1989/CENTERFOLD: Roddy Piper. **Steamboat,** Hogan, Paul E., Dream Tournament, Studd, Muraco.
October 1989/CENTERFOLD: Rick Rude. **Luger vs. Hogan,** Snuka, Sting, Lawler vs. Perez, Page.
December 1989/CENTERFOLD: Jimmy Snuka. **Luger, Vicious, Muta, Sting,** Beefcake & Hogan, Tully & Arn.
January 1990/CENTERFOLD: Sid Vicious. **Ultimate,** Cornette, Ross, Kerry.
February 1990/CENTERFOLD: Bret Hart. **Lex Luger,** Hogan, Hennig-Beefcake, Toni Adams, Woman.
April 1990/CENTERFOLD: Dusty Rhodes. **Ric Flair,** Hennig vs. Hogan, Sting, Rockers, Lawler.
June 1990/CENTERFOLD: Sting. **Hogan vs. Warrior,** R&R Express, Rhodes vs. Savage, Arn vs. Sawyer.
July 1990/CENTERFOLD: Rick Martel. **Lex Luger,** Beefcake, Skyscrapers, Heenan, Saito, referees.
September 1990/CENTERFOLD: Rick & Scott Steiner. **Hogan,** Sting, Horsemen, Hennig.
October 1990/CENTERFOLD: Brutus Beefcake. **Sting,** Tugboat, Ultimate, Long, Blanchard-Orndorff.
November 1990/CENTERFOLD: Legion of Doom. **Sting beats Flair,** Rude-Warrior.
April 1991/CENTERFOLD: Tom Zenk. **Sgt. Slaughter,** Hogan & Warrior, Magnum T.A., Lawler-Gilbert.
May 1991/CENTERFOLD: Arn Anderson. **Hogan,** Rude, Flair-Sting, Thesz.
July 1991/CENTERFOLD: Brian Pillman. **Hogan,** Luger, Demolition, Embry, Horsemen-Vicious.
October 1991/CENTERFOLD: Lex Luger. **Justice,** Hogan-Slaughter, Windham, Williams.
November 1991/CENTERFOLD: Bobby Eaton. **Savage & Elizabeth,** Bushwhackers, Liger, Pillman.
December 1991/CENTERFOLD: Rick Steamboat. **PWI 500,** Simmons, Badd, Hogan-Flair.
January 1992/CENTERFOLD: Ron Simmons. **Flair,** R. Steiner, Ultimate, Luger.
February 1992/CENTERFOLD: 1992 calendar. **Hogan,** Gilbert, Roberts-Justice, hot prospects.
June 1992/CENTERFOLD: Dustin Rhodes. **Piper** interview, Abdullah-Cactus, Flair-Savage, Justice.
July 1992/CENTERFOLD: Randy Savage. **Best of the Best,** Flair, U.S.-Japan, Savage.
September 1992/CENTERFOLD: Nikita Koloff. **Sting-Savage,** Justice, Backlund, Steiners, Michaels.
November 1992/CENTERFOLD: The Ultimate Warrior. **British Bulldog,** Undertaker, Steiners, Honky Tonk Man interview.
December 1992/CENTERFOLD: Big Van Vader. **PWI 500,** Bossman-Nailz, Watt & WCW rules, Justice interview.
January 1993/CENTERFOLD: Jeff Jarrett. **Flair/SummerSlam,** Simmons by Bowden, Von Erich interview.
February 1993/CENTERFOLD: Curt Hennig. **Ramon,** Snuka-Muraco, Rude, Rhodes, Roberts interview.
April 1993/CENTERFOLD: Barry Windham. **Steiners,** Backlund, Sting-Muta, Hawk-Sasaki.
May 1993/CENTERFOLD: Undertaker. **WrestleMania IX preview,** Cactus Jack, Madusa-Sherri.
June 1993/CENTERFOLD: Razor Ramon. **Flair,** Race-Vader, Lawler-Hennig, Kamala, WWF's egoists.
July 1993/CENTERFOLD: Davey Boy Smith. **Hulk Hogan.** Vader, Yokozuna, Hart, Slamboree, Flair-Rude.
September 1993/CENTERFOLD: Paul Orndorff. **Sting & Hogan**. Luger, Sherri-Shango, Blonds.
October 1993/CENTERFOLD: Marty Jannetty. **WWF Midyear Report.** Vicious, Anderson, Hart-Hogan.
November 1993/CENTERFOLD: Steiners. **WCW Midyear Report.** Doink, Funk-Gilbert, Race, Yokozuna.
December 1993/CENTERFOLD: Bret Hart. **PWI 500.** Luger, Davey Boy Smith, Cactus Jack.
January 1994/CENTERFOLD: Jerry Lawler. **Doink.** Nasty Boys, Steiners, Cornette, Vicious.
February 1994/CENTERFOLD: Sid Vicious. **PWI or WCW—Who's Better?** Race-Rhodes, Hogan-Muta, Hart.

PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED

☐ Jan 1983	☐ June 1989	☐ Feb 1992
☐ Apr 1983	☐ July 1989	☐ June 1992
☐ July 1983	☐ Oct 1989	☐ July 1992
☐ Aug 1983	☐ Dec 1989	☐ Sep 1992
☐ Dec 1983	☐ Jan 1990	☐ Nov 1992
☐ Jan 1984	☐ Feb 1990	☐ Dec 1992
☐ June1984	☐ Apr 1990	☐ Jan 1993
☐ July 1984	☐ June 1990	☐ Feb 1993
☐ Sep 1985	☐ July 1990	☐ Apr 1993
☐ Feb 1986	☐ Sep 1990	☐ May 1993
☐ Oct 1986	☐ Oct 1990	☐ June 1993
☐ Jan 1987	☐ Nov 1990	☐ July 1993
☐ Nov 1987	☐ Apr 1991	☐ Sept 1993
☐ Jan 1988	☐ May 1991	☐ Oct 1993
☐ May 1988	☐ July 1991	☐ Nov 1993
☐ Aug 1988	☐ Oct 1991	☐ Dec 1993
☐ Dec 1988	☐ Nov 1991	☐ Jan 1994
☐ Feb 1989	☐ Dec 1991	☐ Feb 1994
☐ Apr 1989	☐ Jan 1992	

Make Check Payable And Send To:

LONDON PUBLISHING CO.
P.O. BOX 956
FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034

ONLY $3.00 EACH

Please send me the back issues I've checked.

Number of magazines ordered:_____ Amount enclosed:_____ **U.S. FUNDS ONLY**

In case of sellout, please indicate substitute issue:_____

PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY

Name_____

Address_____ Apt._____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

For all orders except the U.S., you must add $1.50 for every back issue to be sent via surface mail, and $3 for every back issue to be sent via airmail. International money order in U.S. funds only.

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

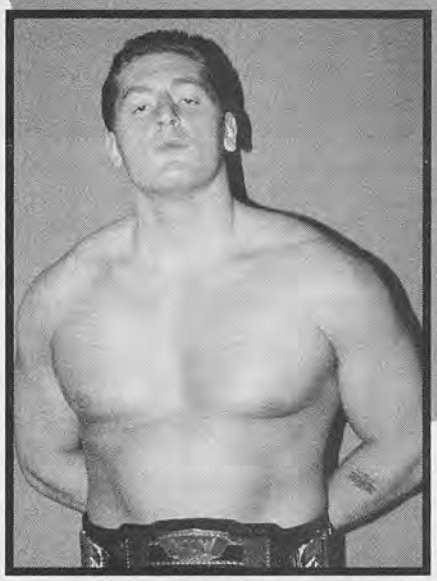
1772/10-93

scouting report

HOMETOWN: Parts unknown
HEIGHT: 6'9"
WEIGHT: 320
YEARS AS PRO: 6
RATING: No. 46 ("*PWI* 500")
STRENGTHS:
•Intimidating presence. Huge size, haunting personality.
•Tombstone piledriver. Owns one of pro wrestling's most lethal maneuvers.
•Balance. As evidenced by his rope-walking ability, he has a rare gift.
WEAKNESSES:
•Slow. Has his problems with smaller, quicker rivals.
•Limited repertoire. Opponents know what to look for.
•Urn reliance. Overdependence on the magical vase has made him a bit lazy.
OTHER COMMENTS: Is managed by Paul Bearer, who has a degree in mortuary science … Was briefly WWF World champion as a rulebreaker in 1991 … As fan favorite, is one of the federation's most popular stars … Feuded with Giant Gonzales and Mr. Hughes throughout much of 1993 … Recently battled WWF World champion Yokozuna in a series of "casket" matches.
OUTLOOK FOR '94: Now that he's got his urn and his strength back, Undertaker should be a title contender for some time to come. He may be required to wait if a fellow fan favorite like Lex Luger beats him to the punch, but the formidable colossus stands an excellent chance of capturing the WWF World belt in the next year.

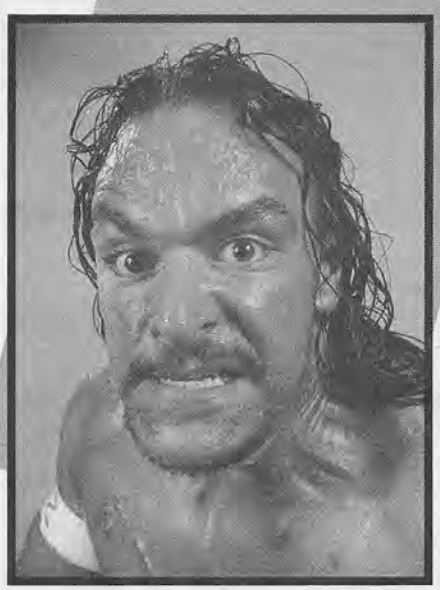
THE UNDERTAKER

LORD STEVEN REGAL



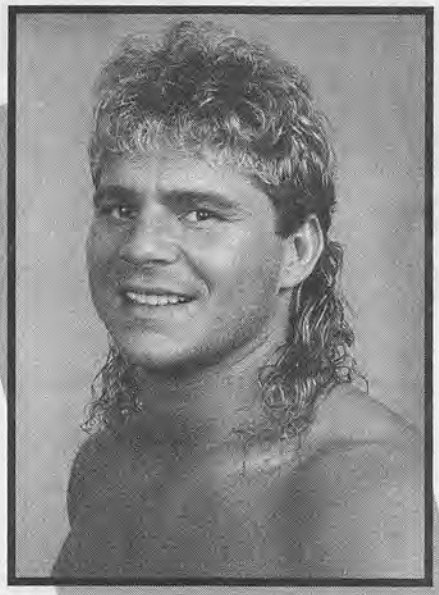
HOMETOWN: Blackpool, England
HEIGHT: 6'4"
WEIGHT: 247
YEARS AS PRO: 10
RATING: No. 71 ("*PWI* 500")
STRENGTHS:
•International experience. Won an array of European titles before coming to North America.
•Self-confidence. Believes in himself to the nth degree.
•Stamina. Among the most durable wrestlers anywhere.
WEAKNESSES:
•Pomposity. Claims he's of royal blood; few believe him.
•No aerial skills. Somewhat limited when forced out of mat game.
•Outside problems. Once out of the ring, he's lost.
OTHER COMMENTS: Current WCW TV champion … Wrestled in 18 countries before joining the federation last spring … Was European heavyweight champion in 1987 … Held European tag team belts with Miles Zrno … His grandfather, Bill Matthews, wrestled as The Iron Duke many years ago … Managed by the sneaky Sir William.
OUTLOOK FOR '94: One of the world's finest technical wrestlers, Lord Steven should remain among WCW royalty in coming months. He's not yet among the super elite, as a recent series of losses to World champion Ric Flair proved. But Regal is a crafty, if exasperating, competitor. Federation fan favorites should never take him lightly.

SABU



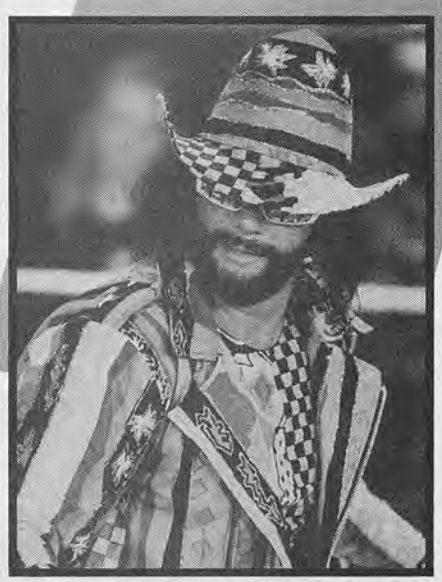
HOMETOWN: Bombay, India
HEIGHT: 6'
WEIGHT: 220
YEARS AS PRO: 4
RATING: No. 56 ("*PWI* 500")
STRENGTHS:
•Aerial latitude. He's one of the world's very best high-flyers.
•Maniacal attitude. His devil-may-care approach makes him nearly impossible to defend against.
•Sheik's training. Has learned much from the master of sadism.
WEAKNESSES:
•Too fearless. His recklessness may someday be his undoing.
•Irresponsible. Frenzied celebrations on press tables could cause injury.
•Lack of strength. Has trouble with much larger foes.
OTHER COMMENTS: Frequently competes in Japan … Honors his commitments to Asian promoters, and thus hasn't joined major U.S. federation, though he excelled in a recent WWF tryout … Best known in America as former ECW champion; still holds its TV belt … Won FMW tag team title with Horace Boulder (Hulk Hogan's cousin).
OUTLOOK FOR '94: Observers are in awe of his skills, but they all ask the same question: How long can he last? His all-out style punishes his body, and everyone fears one day he'll go too far. Down the road, he may join a major federation, where he should excel. That is, provided his flame hasn't burned out by then.

BRIAN PILLMAN



HOMETOWN: Cincinnati, OH
HEIGHT: 5'10"
WEIGHT: 226
YEARS AS PRO: 8
RATING: No. 18 ("*PWI* 500")
STRENGTHS:
•Athleticism. One of WCW's most physically gifted performers.
•Conditioning. Pro football background helps his training regimen.
•Innovative. Can instinctively come up with new moves during bout.
WEAKNESSES:
•Untrusted. Both fan favorites and rulebreakers are wary of his changeable attitude.
•Rusty aerialist. Brian hasn't been flyin' that much in recent months.
•Easily sidetracked. Carries feuds far beyond their time.
OTHER COMMENTS: Former Cincinnati Bengals and Calgary Stampeders player … Won Stampede International tag team title with Bruce Hart … Won WCW World tag title as part of The Hollywood Blonds before falling out with Steve Austin … Is feuding with Austin and his manager, Col. Robert Parker … Carried chicken suit into arenas in order to embarrass Parker.
OUTLOOK FOR '94: Pillman is among a handful of wrestlers not classified as either a fan favorite or rulebreaker. That works to his disadvantage, since he's most comfortable as a tag team competitor. If he can align himself with one camp or the other, he may do well in coming months. Otherwise, he's running a treadmill.

RANDY SAVAGE



HOMETOWN: Sarasota, FL
HEIGHT: 6'1½"
WEIGHT: 245
YEARS AS PRO: 21
RATING: No. 28 ("*PWI* 500")
STRENGTHS:
•Reputation. Career accomplishments intimidate all but a few foes.
•Courageous. Won't back down from any battle.
•Knowledge. His ring smarts are second to none.
WEAKNESSES:
•Indecisive. Is he a wrestler or a broadcaster?
•Instability. Can fly off the deep end for no particular reason.
•Age. As experience and savvy increase, his stamina and mobility decrease.
OTHER COMMENTS: Born Randy Poffo, part of famed Poffo wrestling family in Florida … Former minor league baseball player in Cardinals, White Sox, and Reds organizations … Won WWF World title twice, and is one of only four wrestlers to hold both the World and Intercontinental belts … Has broadcast on *WWF Monday Night Raw* and other federation programs … Is feuding with Crush.
OUTLOOK FOR '94: Anyone with Savage's experience can't be taken lightly, but fans don't know if he's a serious contender for a title or a broadcaster just settling a feud. The "Macho Man" has to define himself during 1994; if he's a genuine full-time wrestler, watch out! He may not win a World or I-C title himself, but he could have a say in who does.

PRO Wrestling® ILLUSTRATED

PWI's Top 10

Yokozuna

TOP 10

1 RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
(5) WCW World champion

2 YOKOZUNA
550, Samoa
(2) WWF World champion

3 STEVE AUSTIN
241, Dallas, TX
(10) WCW U.S. champion

4 BRET HART
235, Calgary, Alberta
(4) No. 4 contender: WWF World title

5 RAZOR RAMON
291, Minneapolis, MN
(3) WWF Intercontinental champion

6 JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN
(-) USWA champion

7 STEVE REGAL
247, Blackpool, England
(-) WCW TV champion

8 STING
260, Venice Beach, CA
(7) No. 6 contender: WCW World title

9 DUSTIN RHODES
254, Austin, TX
(6) No. 4 contender: WCW World title

10 BRIAN LEE
251, Los Angeles, CA
(-) Smoky Mountain Champion

TAG TEAMS

1 THE NASTY BOYS
Combined weight: 585 pounds
(1) WCW World tag team champions

2 THE QUEBECERS
Combined weight: 472 pounds
(-) WWF World tag team champions

3 THE KID & MARTY JANNETTY
Combined weight: 431 pounds
(2) No. 1 contenders: WWF World tag title

4 RICK & SCOTT STEINER
Combined weight: 483 pounds
(3) No. 2 contenders: WWF World tag title

5 THE HEAVENLY BODIES
Combined weight: 450 pounds
(4) Smoky Mountain tag team champions

6 2 COLD SCORPIO & MARCUS BAGWELL
Combined weight: 460 pounds
(6) No. 1 contenders: WCW World tag title

7 THE HEADSHRINKERS
Combined weight: 520 pounds
(5) No. 3 contenders: WWF World tag title

8 THE BRUISE BROTHERS
Combined weight: 583 pounds
(7) USWA tag team champions

9 PAUL ORNDORFF & PAUL ROMA
Combined weight: Combined weight: 488 pounds
(-) No. 2 contenders: WCW World tag title

10 THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS
Combined weight: 453 pounds
(8) No. 1 contenders: Smoky Mountain tag title

WCW
World Champion:
RIC FLAIR
(C) 243, Minneapolis, MN

1—STEVE AUSTIN
(5) 241, Dallas, TX
2—BIG VAN VADER
(C) 450, Denver, CO
3—STEVE REGAL
(10) 247, Blackpool, England
4—DUSTIN RHODES
(1) 254, Austin, TX
5—RICK RUDE
(2) 246, Robbinsdale, MN
6—STING
(4) 260, Venice Beach, CA
7—THE BOSS
(6) 310, Cobb County, GA
8—RICK STEAMBOAT
(9) 238, Honolulu, HI
9—BRIAN PILLMAN
(-) 226, Cincinnati, OH
10—RON SIMMONS
(-) 260, Perry, GA

WWF
World Champion:
YOKOZUNA
(C) 550, Samoa

1—RAZOR RAMON
(1) 291, Minneapolis, MN
2—TATANKA
(8) 260, Miami, FL
3—THE UNDERTAKER
(3) 320, parts unknown
4—BRET HART
(2) 235, Calgary, Alberta
5—CRUSH
(-) 310, Honolulu, HI
6—RANDY SAVAGE
(7) 245, Sarasota, FL
7—SHAWN MICHAELS
(4) 220, San Antonio, TX
8—LEX LUGER
(5) 290, Chicago, IL
9—OWEN HART
(-) 223, Calgary, Alberta
10—LUDVIG BORGA
(6) 258, Helsinki, Finland

GLOBAL
Global Champion:
CHRIS ADAMS
(C) 228, Stratford, England

1—ICEMAN PARSONS
(C) 245, St. Louis, MO
2—ROD PRICE
(2) 265, Los Angeles, CA
3—BLACK BART
(3) 261, Pampa, TX
4—SCOTT PUTSKI
(4) 235, Austin, TX
5—AL PEREZ
(5) 239, Tampa, FL
6—MOADIB
(7) 285, parts unknown
7—ACTION JACKSON
(-) 281, Dallas, TX
8—JOHN HAWK
(6) 280, Sweetwater, TX
9—ANGEL OF DEATH
(10) 310, Los Angeles, CA
10—JAKE ROBERTS
(8) 253, Stone Mountain, GA

USWA
USWA Champion:
JERRY LAWLER
(C) 234, Memphis, TN

1—BRIAN CHRISTOPHER
(3) 230, Memphis, TN
2—EDDIE GILBERT
(-) 222, Lexington, TN
3—TOMMY RICH
(-) 248, Hendersonville, TN
4—DOUG GILBERT
(7) 241, Lexington, TN
5—STEVE KEIRN
(-) 235, Tampa, FL
6—JEFF GAYLORD
(6) 280, St. Louis, MO
7—VAMPIRE WARRIOR
(-) 256, parts unknown
8—DAN DAVIS
(-) 218, Nashville, TN
9—J.C. ICE
(-) 221, Memphis, TN
10—WOLFIE D
(-) 250, parts unknown

OFFICIAL RATINGS

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board. Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide telephone and arena surveys of wrestling fans and on the volume and character of mail that comes to our offices. All other ratings are based on the official current positions of challengers to the top title in each category; certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings. The number in parentheses indicates a wrestler's position in that category last issue; (-) indicates that the wrestler was not rated in that category last issue. while (C) indicates the wrestler was champion in that category last issue.

MOST POPULAR

1 BRET HART
235, Calgary, Alberta
Last issue: No. 1 Most Popular

2 STING
260, Venice Beach, CA
Last issue: No. 2 Most Popular

3 RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
Last issue: No. 5 Most Popular

4 RAZOR RAMON
291, Minneapolis, MN
Last issue: No. 3 Most Popular

5 BRIAN PILLMAN
226, Cincinnati, OH
Last issue: No. 10 Most Popular

6 RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL
Last issue: No. 7 Most Popular

7 LEX LUGER
290, Chicago, IL
Last issue: No. 6 Most Popular

8 DUSTIN RHODES
254, Austin, TX
Last issue: No. 4 Most Popular

9 TATANKA
260, Miami, FL
Last issue: No. 8 Most Popular

10 RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI
Last issue: No. 9 Most Popular

MOST HATED

1 BIG VAN VADER
450, Denver, CO
Last issue: No. 1 Most Hated

2 SHAWN MICHAELS
220, San Antonio, TX
Last issue: No. 3 Most Hated

3 YOKOZUNA
550, Samoa
Last issue: No. 5 Most Hated

4 RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN
Last issue: No. 4 Most Hated

5 STEVE AUSTIN
241, Dallas, TX
Last issue: No. 6 Most Hated

6 JEFF JARRETT
220, Hendersonville, TN
Last issue: unrated

7 CRUSH
310, Honolulu, HI
Last issue: No. 2 Most Hated

8 STEVE REGAL
247, Blackpool, England
Last issue: No. 7 Most Hated

9 LUDVIG BORGA
258, Helsinki, Finland
Last issue: unrated

10 EDDIE GILBERT
222, Lexington, TN
Last issue: unrated

For period ended January 17, 1994

CUMULATIVE RATINGS

These ratings are based on the past 10 issues of this magazine. We have examined our ratings for each of these issues in our Top 10 and Tag Team categories only, and assigned each position a point value: 10 points for a first-place rating, nine for second place, and so on. The point values for all wrestlers in the past 10 issues have been compiled, with a possible maximum of 100 points. Each issue we'll present the top five finishers in each category. While our regular ratings reflect the past month, these cumulative ratings give an indication of wider trends in the sport.

SINGLES

1—BIG VAN VADER .....80 points
2—YOKOZUNA .....66 points
3—BRET HART.....65 points
4—RIC FLAIR.....44 points
5—STING .....39 points

TAG TEAMS

1—RICK & SCOTT STEINER.....76 points
2—THE NASTY BOYS .....57 points
3—2 COLD SCORPIO & MARCUS BAGWELL .....48 points
4—THE HEADSHRINKERS.....44 points
5—THE HEAVENLY BODIES .....43 points

SMOKY MOUNTAIN

Smoky Mountain Champion:
BRIAN LEE
(C) 251, Los Angeles, CA

1—TONY ANTHONY
(1) 235, Bucksnort, TN

2—ROBBIE EAGLE
(-) 225, Raleigh, NC

3—TRACEY SMOTHERS
(2) 227, Atlanta, GA

4—KILLER KYLE
(6) 303, Atlanta, GA

5—CHRIS CANDIDO
(5) 226, Carteret, NJ

6—BOBBY BLAZE
(-) 222, Charlotte, NC

7—THE BULLET
(-) 228, parts unknown

8—PRINCE KHARIS
(7) 267, Cairo

9—RICK MORTON
(-) 228, Memphis, TN

10—ROBERT GIBSON
(-) 225, Pensacola, FL

ECW

ECW Champion:
TERRY FUNK
(C) 247, Amarillo, TX

1—SABU
(C) 220, Bombay

2—MR. HUGHES
(5) 308, Kansas City, KS

3—TASMANIAC
(3) 221, Tasmania

4—TOMMY CAIRO
(7) 257, Philadelphia, PA

5—ROCKIN' REBEL
(8) 219, Philadelphia, PA

6—TOMMY DREAMER
(9) 245, Yonkers, NY

7—HAWK
(2) 277, Chicago, IL

8—KEVIN SULLIVAN
(4) 252, Boston, MA

9—SALVATORE BELLOMO
(6) 240, Sicily, Italy

10—THE SANDMAN
(-) 244, Philadelphia, PA

ICWA: ICWA Champion—Jumbo Barretta; **1**—Frankie Rose; **2**—Surgeon General; **3**—Rico Fredrico; **4**—Kenny Kendall; **5**—Lanny Poffo; **6**—Coconut Kid; **7**—Jammin' Johnny; **8**—Bill Payne; **9**—Cuban Assassin; **10**—Sid Powers.

IWCCW: IWCCW Champion—Title Vacant; **1**—Manny Fernandez; **2**—Tony Atlas; **3**—Tommy Dreamer; **4**—Greg Valentine; **5**—Tasmaniac; **6**—Ray Odyssey; **7**—Koko B. Ware; **8**—Joe Savoldi; **9**—Primo Carnera III; **10**—Kendall Windham.

PWA: PWA Champion—The Hater; **1**—Hawk; **2**—Nailz; **3**—Jerry Lynn; **4**—Tommy Ferrara; **5**—Brad Rheingans; **6**—Derrick Dukes; **7**—Billy Blaze; **8**—Randy Gusto; **9**—Ricky Rice; **10**—Punisher.

PWF: PWF Champion—Austin Steele; **1**—The Hillbilly; **2**—George South; **3**—Italian Stallion; **4**—Terry Austin; **5**—Star Ryder; **6**—Scott Powers; **7**—Russian Assassin I; **8**—Black Scorpion; **9**—American G.I.; **10**—Randy Sledge.

SOUTHERN STATES WRESTLING: SSW Champion—Wayne Rogers; **1**—Jimmy Golden; **2**—G. Q. Stratus; **3**—The Mongolian Stomper; **4**—Mike Samson; **5**—Danny Christian; **6**—Skyfire; **7**—Billy Marshall; **8**—Eddie Golden; **9**—Keith Hart; **10**—Alex Shane.

USA: USA TV Champion—Col. DeBeers; **1**—Lou Andrews; **2**—Bruiser Brian; **3**—Larry Oliver; **4**—Jesse Barr; **5**—C.W. Bergstrom; **6**—Silver Shadow; **7**—Dane Rush; **8**—Karl Pope; **9**—John Rambo; **10**—Jim Pope.

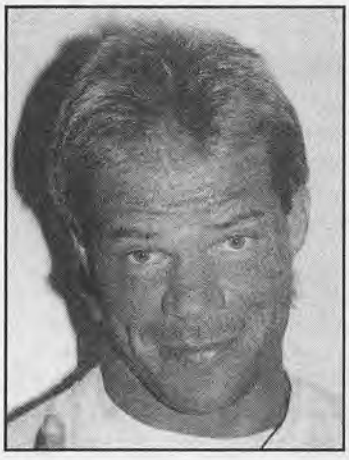
WWA: WWA Champion—Boy Gone Bad; **1**—Ray Odyssey; **2**—Abudah Singh; **3**—Ed the Razor; **4**—Chris Powers; **5**—Duane Gill; **6**—The Spider; **7**—Barry Hardy; **8**—Friendly Frank; **9**—Scott Vida; **10**—Akita Kaos.

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating over 200 wrestlers in 20 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important–and respected–ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans

Now these are really cumulative! Part of PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED'S monthly ratings include a cumulative ranking based on the past 10 issues. One reader enjoyed this feature so much that he decided to compile a super-cumulative survey, based on *PWI* ratings from January 1984 to December 1993.

I enjoyed the many hours spent going through these many issues (120 in all) and re-reading many of the articles written over the years, wrote John Carvale of Riverside, California. And we enjoy—and appreciate—the hours of work that went into this project, John.



Lex Luger

Who's number one for the 10-year period? Current WCW World champion **Ric Flair**. The "Nature Boy" amassed 917 points, well in front of second-place **Hulk Hogan's** 736. The next three finishers weren't even close: **Lex Luger** (460), **Randy Savage** (409), and **Sting** (335).

To make his research easier, Carvale compiled his information on a year-by-year basis. Flair was the overall points leader each year from 1985 through 1988, and again led in 1990. In fact, the "Nature Boy" was atop the rankings for an incredible *31* consecutive months—from May 1984 to December 1986!

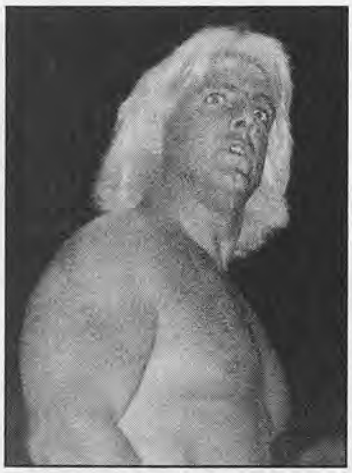
Here's a believe-it-or-not: While Hogan is certainly far better known than Flair outside wrestling circles, he never led in points during any single year. However, the "Hulkster" was always up there, more often than not second to Flair, and might have fared better in the overall point total had he not periodically taken time off for acting.

Other yearly cumulative leaders: **Andre the Giant** (1984), Savage (1989), Luger (1991), **Rick Rude** (1992), and **Bret Hart** (1993).

Finally, note this bit of irony. Former WCW World champion **Big Van Vader** and his manager, **Harley Race**, finished in a tie for 19th place, along with **Rick Steamboat**.

The top 25:

1.	Ric Flair	917
2.	Hulk Hogan	736
3.	Lex Luger	460
4.	Randy Savage	409
5.	Sting	335
6.	Dusty Rhodes	262
7.	Curt Hennig	200
	The Ultimate Warrior	
9.	Kerry Von Erich	189
10.	Jerry Lawler	182
11.	Rick Rude	178
12.	Nikita Koloff	174
13.	Rick Martel	171
	Barry Windham	
15.	Bret Hart	155
16.	Andre the Giant	126
17.	Magnum T.A.	102
18.	Nick Bockwinkel	90
19.	Harley Race	83
	Rick Steamboat	
	Big Van Vader	
22.	Steve Williams	71
23.	Shawn Michaels	61
24.	Stan Hansen	57
	Larry Zbyszko	



Ric Flair

Is Flair the best? Do you think these ratings accurately reflect the "Nature Boy's" dominance of the sport over the past decade? Or is it unfair to judge wrestlers on these numbers alone? Tell us what you think about this top 25 list and anything else concerning our ratings. Write to: "Ratings Analysis," c/o PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED, Box 956, Fort Washington, PA 19034. □

60 WEAR-DOWN HOLDS

1. AIRPLANE SPIN
2. ARMBAR
3. ARMDRAG
4. ARMLOCK
5. ARM STRETCH
6. ARM WHIP
7. ASIAN SPIKE
8. BEAR HUG
9. BITING
10. BODY SLAM
11. BODY TACKLE
12. CHICKEN WING
13. CHOKE
14. CLAW
15. CLOTHESLINE
16. CROSS BODY BLOCK
17. DOUBLE-AXE HANDLE
18. DROP KICK
19. EAGLE SPLIT
20. ELBOW SMASH
21. EYE GOUGE
22. FACE RAKE
23. FIREMAN'S CARRY RAM
24. FLYING BODY PRESS
25. FLYING CLOTHESLINE
26. FLYING DROP KICK
27. FLYING ELBOW DROP
28. FLYING HEAD BUTT
29. FLYING MARE
30. FOREARM SMASH
31. FOREIGN OBJECT
32. FULL NELSON
33. GIANT SWING
34. GRAPEVINE
35. HAIR PULLING
36. HAMMERLOCK
37. HEAD LOCK
38. HEAD STOMP
39. HEART PUNCH
40. HIP ROLL
41. IRISH WHIP
42. KNEE DROP
43. LEGLOCK
44. MANAGER INTERFERENCE
45. MONKEY FLIP
46. OVERHEAD TOSS
47. POLE RAM
48. REVERSE CHINLOCK
49. ROLLING SCISSORS
50. ROPE BURN
51. SAVATTE KICK
52. SCISSORS GRIP
53. SHOULDER BREAKER
54. SLINGSHOT
55. SNAP MARE
56. STEP-OVER TOE HOLD
57. SUPLEX
58. SURFBOARD
59. TURNBUCKLE SMASH
60. WRISTLOCK

30 SET-UP HOLDS

61. ABDOMINAL STRETCH
62. ATOMIC DROP
63. AVALANCHE
64. BACKBREAKER
65. BACKROLL PRESS
66. BELLY TO BELLY
67. BIG SPLASH
68. BOSTON CRAB
69. BRAIN BUSTER
70. BULLDOG
71. CAMEL CLUTCH
72. COBRA CLUTCH
73. CRADLE
74. CRUCIFIX
75. D.D.T.
76. FIGURE FOUR
77. FLYING LEG DROP
78. GOURD BUSTER
79. INDIAN DEATH LOCK
80. NECKBREAKER
81. PILEDRIVER
82. POWER BOMB
83. POWER SLAM
84. RUSSIAN SICKLE
85. SLEEPER
86. SLINGSHOT SUPLEX
87. SMALL PACKAGE
88. SPINE BUSTER
89. SUNSET FLIP
90. SUPERPLEX

BULLMAN BOLT SAYS:

I DARE YOU!!

To challenge me in the IWA!

- Create and manage your own professional wrestler!
- YOU pick your opponents!
- Just $1.00 per match! ($3.00 minimum)
- New leagues continuously forming!
- Battle Royal in each league!
- "World Champion" & "King of the Ring" championship belts awarded each cycle!

- Win prizes and awards!

Our 8th Year and Still #1!

For your $3 sign-up fee, you receive:

1. Entry into the IWA.
2. The Official IWA Handbook.
3. IWA Membership Card.
4. Entry into the Rookie Brawl. Winner gets a plaque!
5. Exhibition match against Bullman Bolt!

To join the IWA, fill out this application and send it with your $3 sign-up fee to:

IWA™
Imaginary Wrestling Association
Box 5275
Willowick, Ohio
44095

Don't miss another day of real wrestling action! Sign up today!

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

WRESTLER'S NAME (NO ACTUAL PRO WRESTLER NAMES, PLEASE)

WRESTLER'S HEIGHT WRESTLER'S WEIGHT

MANAGER'S NAME (IF NOT YOU)

WRESTLER'S SPECIAL GIMMICK

Wear-Down Holds: choose 10 from the list of 60 shown at left. List them in order. Use each only once.

1_____ 2_____ 3_____ 4_____ 5_____

6_____ 7_____ 8_____ 9_____ 10_____

Set-Up Holds: choose 5 from the list of 30 shown at left. List them in order. Use each only once.

1_____ 2_____ 3_____ 4_____ 5_____

Finishing Hold: create "custom" final maneuver or choose a hold from either list shown at left. Limit the length to 20 letters and spaces:

FINISHING HOLD

VOLUME XV, No. 2 FEBRUARY 1994

WRESTLING ENQUIRER

QUEBECERS LOSE, THEN REGAIN WWF WORLD TAG TITLE

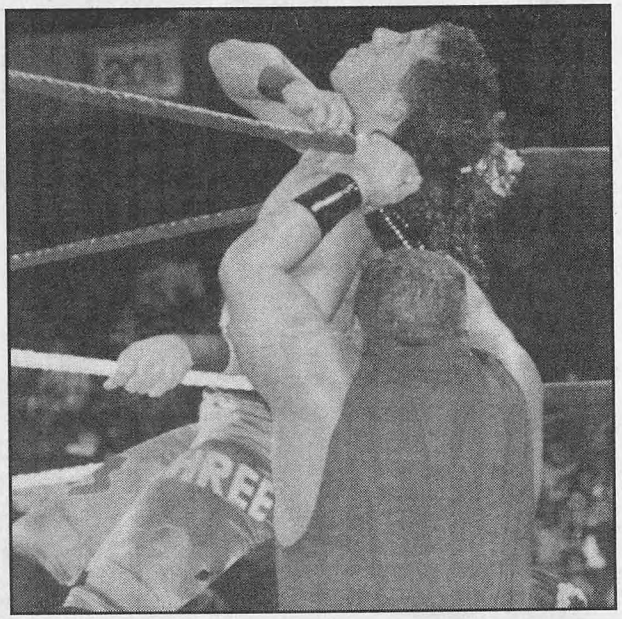
Jannetty & Kid's Reign Lasts One Week

By BILL APTER

NEW YORK—Marty Jannetty and The Kid shocked The Quebecers to win the WWF World tag team title at *Monday Night Raw* in Richmond, Virginia, but their celebration was short-lived. Jacques and Pierre, who got some key interference from manager Johnny Polo, regained the title seven days later at Madison Square Garden.

The Quebecers said they were treating the original match against Kid and Jannetty as a tuneup for a Royal Rumble showdown with Bret and Owen Hart in Providence, Rhode Island.

The French-Canadians dominated much of the match in Richmond, dishing out a lot of punishment to The Kid. Finally, however, the youngster was able to tag out to Jannetty and get a breather.



A few minutes later, he tagged back in, leaped from the top rope onto Pierre, then pinned him.

In an interview after the match, Polo indicated that he had put a stipulation in the original contract stating that his charges would receive a rematch in the event they lost. That rematch took place at the Garden.

Kid and Jannetty wrestled well, but Polo turned out to be their undoing. Near the end of the bout, Kid climbed to the top rope and was about to finish off Pierre when the manager pulled him down. A few seconds later, Pierre got the pinfall and The Quebecers were again champs.

The Quebecers' triumph was good news to the Harts. It again meant that their Royal Rumble match would be for the tag title. Owen had said in an earlier interview that he hoped Jacques and Pierre would recapture the belts.

The Kid and Marty Jannetty briefly held the WWF World tag title after they upset The Quebecers. Jacques and Pierre won the belts back a week later.

Pillman Taunts Parker With Chicken Suit

By DAVE ROSENBAUM

GAINESVILLE, GA—Brian Pillman is out to prove Col. Robert Parker is a chicken. And he means that literally. "Flyin'" Brian is still bitter over Parker's role in the breakup of The Hollywood Blonds, Pillman and Steve Austin. He's found an odd way to seek revenge.

During several TV tapings, Pillman has called the Southern manager "a poor man's Col. Sanders," a reference to the founder of the Kentucky Fried Chicken chain. Pillman's even gone so far as to bring the giant head of a chicken suit to the ring to make fun of Parker.

That led to the signing of a match between the two for Clash of the Champions XXVI in which the loser would be forced to wear a chicken suit.

"This won't be about just one match," said Pillman. "I'll keep humiliating Parker every way I can until I run him right out of WCW. It just shows you what a fool Austin is for hiring him as his manager!"

"Mr. Pillman thinks he can scare me," said Parker. "He held Steve Austin back when they were a team. Tell him the Colonel will be glad to teach him a lesson any time he wants."

"I carried Brian when we were teaming," said Austin. "If he listened to me and agreed to have Col. Parker manage us, we could have been one of the greatest tag teams ever. But it's his loss. He deserves to be humiliated!"

Hogan Defeats Fujinami In Japan

By MATT BROCK

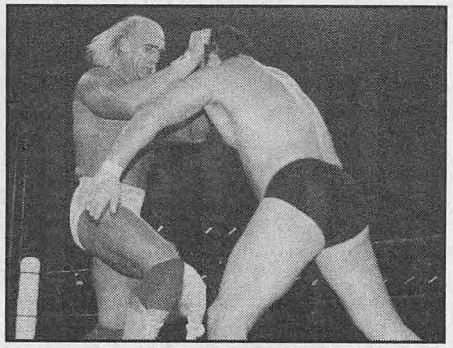
TOKYO—More than 62,000 fans crowded into the Tokyo Dome and were treated to a card featuring some of wrestling's greatest legends.

One of the men who appeared was Hulk Hogan, who hasn't wrestled in the United States since losing the WWF World title in June. The "Hulkster" showed some ring rust, but dominated much of his match against Tatsumi Fujinami. He finished him off with a clothesline.

"It felt great bein' in the ring again," said Hogan. "Hulkamania is alive and well. I can't say whether I'll be wrestling more frequently anytime soon, though. This was just a great win."

Hogan is currently busy filming his new syndicated action-adventure series *Thunder In Paradise*, which is set to begin airing this spring.

Also on the card, Hawk and Kensuke Sasaki won the IWGP tag team title from Scott Norton and Hercules, and Japanese legend Antonio Inoki, whom Hogan beat for the IWGP title in 1983, returned to the ring. He lost a tough match to Genichiro Tenryu.



Hulkamania again ran wild in the Orient, as Hogan pinned Tatsumi Fujinami.

Cornette, Bodies Attack Morton's Father

By ANDY RODRIGUEZ

CHILHOWIE, VA—Jim Cornette took his longtime feud with The Rock 'n' Roll Express to new heights—or depths—when he and his Heavenly Bodies poured an irritating chemical in the eyes of Paul Morton, Rick's dad.

Robert Gibson had arranged to have Morton's father, whom Rick hadn't seen in some time, flown in for an SMW TV taping. During Morton's match with Chris Candido, several wrestlers came to the ring and told Morton of a confrontation that had just taken place in the bathroom.

By the time Morton arrived in the locker room, he found his father lying bloody on the floor. Tom Prichard later admitted responsibility for the attack; several fan favorites said the elder Morton had entered the bathroom while Cornette and the Bodies were discussing strategy. Push came to shove after Paul Morton slapped Cornette.

"He'll pay for this ... more than he's ever paid before," Rick Morton said before leaving for the hospital to visit his father.

AROUND THE GLOBE

BOMBAY, INDIA

Mongolian Mauler, Giant Warrior, Kamala, Vladimir Koloff, Lance Von Erich, and Barbarian were all part of the tournament to crown a new Indo-Asian heavyweight champion. Barbarian proved to be the most resilient, winning four matches in a single day in Calcutta. His reign didn't last long. Warrior, who was eliminated in the tournament's first round, won the belt four days later.

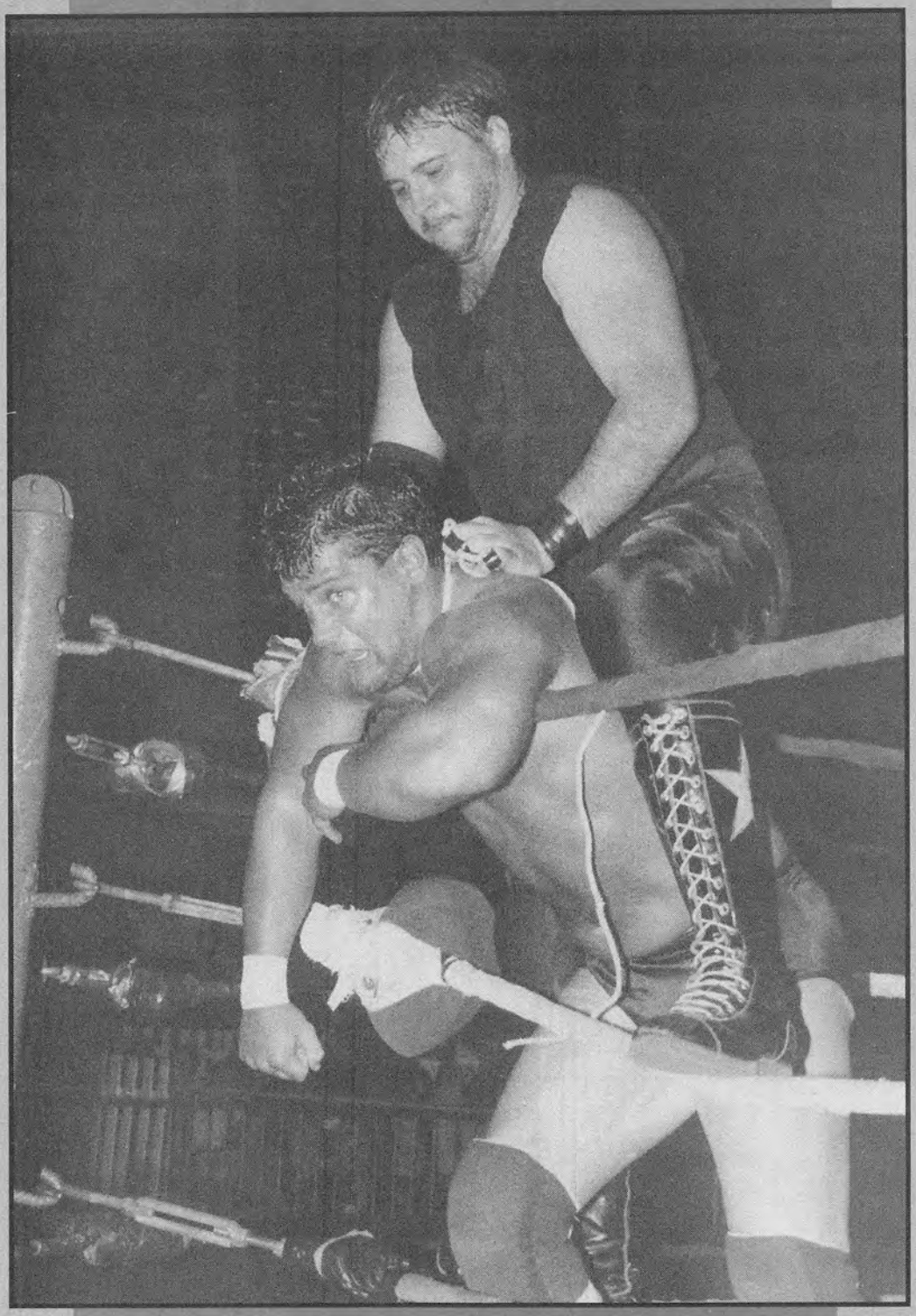
OSAKA, JAPAN

Rick and Scott Steiner are still top contenders to the WWF World tag team title, but they're finding time in their busy schedule to wrestle periodically in the Orient. They've defeated several formidable duos of late, including Hercules and Scott Norton, and are said to be targeting the IWGP title held by Hawk and Kensuke Sasaki. The Steiners have held that title twice.

KITCHENER, ONTARIO

Give Shawn Michaels credit for being a rulebreaker's rulebreaker. He apparently has loyalty to no one. When it appeared Irwin R. Schyster was about to defeat Razor Ramon to become the new Intercontinental champ, Michaels entered the ring and hit the taxman. Michaels still says he's the undisputed I-C champ; he obviously wants to be the one to unseat the "Bad Guy."

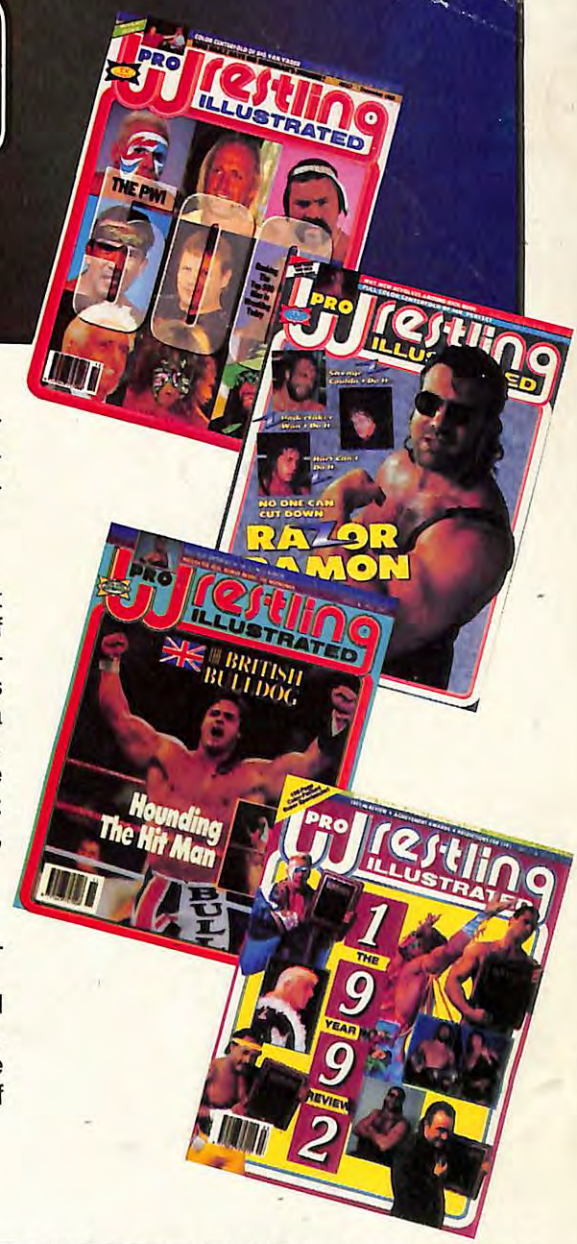
HOT SHOT



Being a fan favorite isn't so easy, is it Brian Christopher? The USWA star recently renounced his rulebreaking ways and is now totally devoted to the fans. That hasn't gone over well with some of his former allies, including Doug Gilbert. Here he wraps a rope around Christopher's throat, probably his not-so-subtle attempt to get Brian to reconsider his attitude change.

PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

THE STORY YOU WON'T GET ON TV COULD BE IN YOUR MAILBOX!



THE LEADER OF THE PACK

For over a decade, **PWI** has been bringing the wrestling arena (and the locker room) to the fans. No other wrestling magazine that covers the entire spectrum of the sport can boast of the same quality writers, editors, and photographers. **PWI** is acknowledged worldwide as the best!

EXCLUSIVE FEATURES

PWI's award-winning staff is always where the action is, providing the most complete coverage of wrestling available anywhere. From the great staff of writers, through the dramatic peak-action photographs, to the magnificent full-color centerfold—**PWI** brings you wrestling action at its best. **PWI** includes exclusive features you can't get anywhere else: Our comprehensive "Arena Reports" . . . Eddie Ellner's lively and controversial "Off The Top Rope" . . . An incisive "Press Conference" with one of the sport's top stars . . . Extensive "Ratings" . . . "Scouting Reports" . . . "Time Capsules" . . . And don't forget: Your subscription to **PWI** includes the spectacular 100-page year-end issue, priced at $3.50 on the newsstand (if you can find it!).

THREE WAYS TO SUBSCRIBE

- Now available for the first time, a six-month subscription to *PWI.* Six power-packed issues will be delivered right to your door for just $15.
- Order a one-year subscription to *PWI* and receive **two issues free!** You'll get 14 issues for just $30—a 17% savings off the regular newsstand price.
- To receive the greatest savings, order a two-year subscription to *PWI* at the low price of $60 and receive **six issues free!** That's 30 issues for the cost of 24, a 25% savings off the regular newsstand rate!

Don't miss a single issue! Subscribe today!

Yes, I would like to subscribe to *PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED*

☐ I am enclosing $15 for a six-month subscription
☐ I am enclosing $30 for a one-year subscription with the understanding that I will receive **two issues free** for a total of 14 monthly issues
☐ I am enclosing $60 for a two-year subscription with the understanding that I will receive **six issues free** for a total of 30 monthly issues

(Pennsylvania residents, please add 6% sales tax).

Please indicate method of payment

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)
☐ VISA # _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
☐ MasterCard # _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
Expiration Date: ___/___
MO/YR

Send to: **London Publishing Co.**
P.O. Box 910
Ft. Washington, PA 19034

☐New ☐Renewal

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

PWI FAN CLUB MEMBERS:
_____ Provide your club membership number and take an additional 10% off on subscriptions of one or two years!)

Price offer good in U.S. and Canada only. All other countries: $19.80 for six issues ($25.50 airmail). $39.60 for one year ($51 airmail), $79.20 for two years ($102 airmail). International money order in U.S. funds for all orders outside the U.S. Please allow up to eight weeks before receiving first issue.

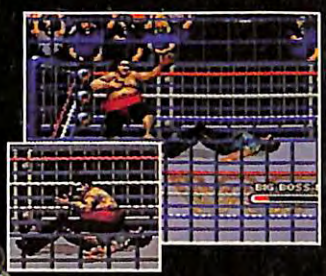
1369/05-93

ONLY ONE WILL SURVIVE!

DEVASTATING AERIAL ATTACKS!

THE SEGA CD™ RAGE!™

NEVER "WRITE OFF" MR.PERFECT™!



BEWARE THE BANZAI DROP!

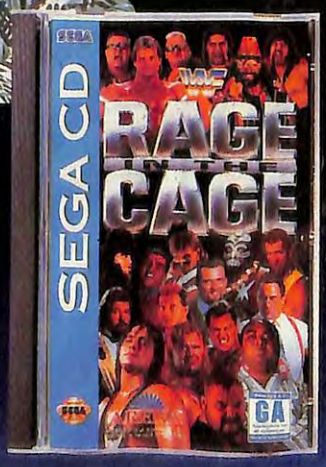
LIVE-ACTION VIDEO OF EACH SUPERSTAR!

PUNISHING PILEDRIVERS!

WWF®

BRACE YOURSELF! A supercharged lineup of **20** Superstars collide in the ultimate World Wrestling Federation® slugfest! Ballistic Tournament battles, "No-Holds-Barred" brawls, thrashing in and out of the ring action, brutal fight-to-the-finish Steel Cage matchups...and more!

Do **you** have what it takes to escape this ring of steel? It's time to unleash the Rage in the Cage™!



COMING SOON MORTAL KOMBAT® ON SEGA CD™!

OFFICIAL WWF WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION LICENSED PRODUCT

Acclaim® entertainment, inc.

World Wrestling Federation and its logo are registered trademarks of TitanSports, Inc. Hulk Hogan, Hulkamania and Hulkster are trademarks of Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc., licensed exclusively to TitanSports, Inc. All other distinctive character names, likenesses, titles and logos used herein are trademarks of TitanSports, Inc. © 1993 TitanSports, Inc. All rights reserved. Mortal Kombat® ©1992 Licensed from Midway® Manufacturing Company. All rights reserved. Sega and Sega CD are trademarks of Sega Enterprises, Ltd. All rights reserved. Arena is a divisions of Acclaim Entertainment, Inc. TM & © 1993 Acclaim Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved.